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Cabinet approves publication of appendix secrets

By JAY BUSHINSKY

The cabinet yesterday approved partial publication of the Shamgar Report's secret sections, shedding new light on links between the late prime minister Yitzhak Rabin's assassin, Yigal Amir, and General Security Service agent Avishai Raviv.

According to Channel 1, the passages to be made public, possibly by tomorrow, indicate that "Raviv said many times that Prime Minister Rabin should be murdered."

Its correspondent based this report on unnamed sources, who told him that "he said these things to Yigal Amir also."

In a telephone poll conducted by Cabinet Secretary Danny Naveh, a majority of ministers agreed with Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's proposal that the passages be made public.

The Cabinet communiqué said "the government decided to accept the recommendations of the committee appointed by the prime minister... and to allow publication of certain sections from the secret annex including those dealing with Avishai Raviv."

Under the law governing inquiry commissions, the decision must be approved by the Knesset Security and Foreign Affairs Committee.

The ministers acted after a special committee assigned by Netanyahu to consider the advisability of publication decided in favor.

The committee was set up after former chief justice Meir Shamgar, who headed the assassination probe, declared that there was no reason to keep the sections in question classified.

They had been permitted to read the material for the first time last Thursday. None concluded that there was evidence of a General Security Service conspiracy to kill Rabin.

But according to Reuters, one minister charged that Raviv was responsible for fomenting much of the virulent propaganda against Rabin during the months preceding the fatal bullets fired by Amir in Tel Aviv on November 4, 1995.

Itim disclosed that Absorption Minister Yuli Edelstein urged Netanyahu to appoint a committee to investigate the military censors' operations. He reportedly con-

tended that "in the age of electronic communications there is good reason to check the censorship's efficiency."

Edelstein also said censorship must adjust itself to reality to the extent that foreign electronic news media report live about security events, while Israel's citizens are compelled to find out about them from cable TV channels.

Woodward set free after judge changes verdict, cuts sentence

CAMBRIDGE, Massachusetts (AP) — A judge yesterday freed British au pair Louise Woodward after reducing her second-degree murder conviction to involuntary manslaughter for the death of an eight-month-old baby in her care.

At the sentencing hearing, in which the judge set her free after changing the sentence to the nine months she has already served in prison, Woodward addressed the judge briefly, restating her contention that "I maintain what I said at my last sentencing: that I'm innocent."

Prosecutors, however, had urged the judge to impose a sentence of 15 to 20 years. The maximum sentence for manslaughter is 20 years; there is no minimum.

"The defendant refuses to accept responsibility for killing Matthew Eappen," prosecutor Gerard Leone Jr. said. He said she showed no remorse. Defense lawyer Andrew Good responded that Woodward had the right to maintain her innocence.

The recommended sentence in Massachusetts for involuntary manslaughter is 3 1/3 to five years.

In his 16-page ruling, released earlier yesterday, the judge said the evidence compelled him to reduce the verdict.

"I believe that the circumstances in which the defendant acted were characterized by confusion, inexperience, frustration, immaturity and some anger, but not malice [in the legal sense]," the judge wrote.

"After extensive, cool, calm reflection, I am morally certain that allowing this defendant on this evidence to remain convicted on second-degree murder would be a miscarriage of justice," he wrote.

The jury's October 30 verdict — guilty of second-degree murder — stirred emotions on both sides of the Atlantic.

Defense lawyers said they would appeal the manslaughter conviction but would not comment in detail on the judge's ruling.

Matthew's parents were in seclusion and had no comment about the decision.

Matthew died February 9, five days after he was taken to a hospital. Prosecutors said evidence of a 6.3-centimeter fracture to the back of the baby's head and bleeding behind Matthew's eyes indicated the baby's head had been slammed against a hard surface.

They said Woodward hated her job because it interfered with her social life.

But the defense said the baby actually had been injured two to three weeks before February 4, pointing to testimony that a clear fluid was found in the baby's skull.

Several jurors had said they wished they could have considered manslaughter as an option. They had been barred from doing so by an "all or nothing" defense strategy of giving jurors only the options of murder or acquittal.

Under Massachusetts law, Zobel had four options in deciding the appeal of the conviction: Let the verdict stand; dismiss the conviction; order a new trial; or reduce the finding to manslaughter.

Manslaughter, not murder with a mandatory life sentence, best fits the scenario suggested by the evidence, the judge wrote: a young, inexperienced teen struggling with the demands of baby care. A finding of malice under the second-degree murder count meant concluding the defendant committed a deliberate act that a reasonable person would have known was likely to cause death.

"Frustrated by her inability to quiet the crying child, she was 'a little rough with him,' under circumstances where another, perhaps wiser, person would have sought to restrain the physical impulse," he wrote. "The roughness was sufficient to start [a re-start] a bleeding that escalated fatally."

Likud delegates mutiny

Leaders lose control of convention

By SARAH HONIG

The Likud leadership, from Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu to leading MKs, was humiliated yesterday by an insurrection of central committee members at the first working day of the Likud convention yesterday at Tel Aviv's fairgrounds.

Netanyahu and others among the party's elite were repeatedly shouted down and overruled by the rowdy delegates. Unable to control the proceedings, the leadership saw its candidate for convention presidium chairman, Health Minister Yehoshua Matza, drop out of the race.

Defying the leadership, the central committee made clear its determination to scrap the primaries for the party's Knesset list and to retain power over choice of the party's candidates in its own hands.

The peak of the 2,750 delegates' insurrection came when Netanyahu appealed to the delegates not to force a vote on the primaries at the present convention session.

The crowd, which seconds before had cheered a rerun of his address the previous night at the convention's opening ceremony, rose to its feet in protest. The "Bibi, Bibi" chants changed to a reverberating "No, no."

Netanyahu had started out as the audience's darling. He urged the delegates to join his peace-making overture to the Left.

"I repeat my call from the heart — no more blaming, invective and mutual recriminations. It is time to heal the rift and offer the hand of friendship." The delegates cheered.

Thunderous applause and a standing ovation followed Netanyahu's proclamation that "the Golan is territory essential for Israel's security." He had not mentioned the Golan Heights the previous night, drawing protests from the area's residents yesterday.

But as Netanyahu approached the issue of primaries, the mood changed.

"We must approach party issues coolly and consider all possible ramifications," he said. "Haste is dangerous. We must have extra time."

But Netanyahu found it hard to continue the sentence. The delegates jeered, whistled and booed. For a long period they could not be calmed. It was a rare reception for a prime minister's request at a Likud forum and the first such reaction for Netanyahu.

The shock was not mitigated by later claims from delegates that the jeers and boos were reserved for Communications Minister Limor Livnat, who at that minute had made her entrance.

The same treatment was accorded Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi, Science Minister Michael Eitan and even Netanyahu's nemesis MK Ze'ev Begin, who rose in an unexpected attempt to defend putting the primaries matter off to a later convention sitting in January or February.

Eitan chided the delegates: "I am ashamed of the way you receive the prime minister. You must let all sides express themselves. We must allow for a debate."

Begin told the delegates he was no supporter of the primaries sys-



Likud convention delegates shout and wave their hands as they interrupt Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu during his speech to the party convention at the Tel Aviv Fairgrounds yesterday.

Delegate rebellion spells anarchy for Likud

Things could not have gone more wrong for Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu than they did yesterday.

Even if the scheme to scrap the primaries had at some point begun at his initiative, even if — as some Likud ministers alleged — he was playing a double game, the events were out of his control. The genie was out of the bottle and Netanyahu worked with visible desperation to try and push it back in.

Likud conventions have always been riveting political productions, but yesterday's spectacle was unprecedented. It appeared that the party leadership was facing no less than a full-scale grass-roots rebellion, which it could not quell.

By midday it was clear the party leadership was up against what can only be described as a full-scale rebellion against their commanders.

"We are the ones who put you in power," Yisrael Katz, the convention's new presidium chairman, kept mercilessly hammering home. "We are the ones who carried the Likud on our backs, and we are mature and sensible enough to make the right decision. We demand to be heard."

See MUTINY, Page 8

MKs to vote on 18.9% arnona hike

By DAVID HARRIS

The Knesset Finance Committee is scheduled today to vote on a proposal to raise municipal property taxes (arnona) next year by 18.9 percent.

The request was presented to MKs yesterday by the Interior and Finance ministries as part of the economic arrangements bill which accompanies the proposed 1998 budget.

"If this is approved we will become the raiser of taxes for the government," said Union of Local Authorities in Israel spokesman Hillel Goldstein. Mayors will be loathe to increase taxes by such a large percentage in an election year, added Goldstein.

Two weeks ago the ministries proposed an increase of 8.9%, based on the consumer price index through September. However, yesterday MKs were asked to approve an additional 10% increase.

At present the minimum annual payment is NIS 19.40 per square meter. The original 8.9% increase would raise the minimum figure to NIS 21.12. The new proposal would set the tax at NIS 23.06.

Last night opposition MKs, led by former finance minister Avraham Shohat (Labor), tried to persuade coalition colleagues on the committee to vote against the plan.

The tax is based on a local authority's provision of services, a household's socioeconomic standing and other factors, including location.

Both Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman and Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu have said they were not prepared to raise taxes as part of the 1998 budget, which includes a NIS 2.3 billion cut in public spending.

US seeks tighter sanctions against Iraq

WASHINGTON — The United States said yesterday it would ask the UN Security Council to tighten sanctions on Iraq before resorting to military action.

"We will be seeking a strong resolution... a resolution that will condemn his [President Saddam Hussein's] actions, demand that he reverse course and take up where the security council left off... [and impose] the travel restrictions that were considered several weeks ago," State Department spokesman James Rubin told reporters.

Rubin spoke after Iraq raised the stakes in its confrontation with the UN, saying it would no longer consider US-manned U-2 flights part of the inspection program and would act against them.

Vice President Al Gore said that US spy planes would continue flying over Iraq. He spoke cautiously about chances of a military confrontation.

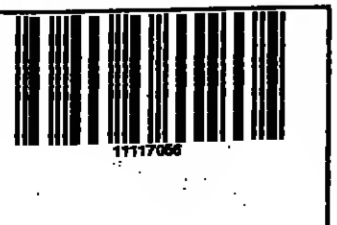
"We are going to continue activities such as the U-2 flights," Gore told a Pentagon news conference. "We're going to insist... that Iraq live up to the UN resolutions in every particular."

Iraq's letter from its foreign minister to UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan, followed confirmation that an American spy plane flew over Iraq early yesterday despite Iraqi threats to shoot it down. Iraq said the plane flew out of range of its gunners.

Iraq has said that American weapons inspectors working with the UN are spies trying to prolong the sanctions imposed after the 1990 Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

Meeting in Brussels, European Union foreign ministers urged Iraq to comply with inspections, but also said they were waiting what they would do if they failed.

"I think that it's not yet a question of military action," Luxembourg Foreign Minister Jacques Poos, whose country holds the EU presidency, told a news conference. (News agencies)



دکتر من الاصل

NEWS

in brief

Four dead in Gush Etzion road accident

Three Israelis and a Palestinian were killed and six others were injured yesterday in a collision near Beit Omar village in the Gush Etzion area.

PA police shoot Arab at roadblock

Palestinian policemen fired shots and wounded an Israeli Arab yesterday afternoon as he attempted to drive through a Palestinian roadblock set up at the northern entrance to Ramallah.

A Magen David Adom ambulance overturned as it headed to the scene but nobody was injured.

The Judea and Samaria police spokesman said the wounded man was a resident of Al-Bireh and had been fleeing from the Palestinian Police, who were questioning him.

PM had lunch with Mashaal Affair probers - TV

Meretz MK Ran Cohen called on Joseph Cieschanover and others on his commission investigating the Mashaal Affair to resign, after Channel 1 reported that they had lunch with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

Canadian FM arrives for one-day visit

By JAY BUSHINSKY and news agencies

Canadian Foreign Minister Lloyd Axworthy begins a 24-hour visit today with visits to Yad Vashem and late prime minister Yitzhak Rabin's grave, after which he will meet with Foreign Minister David Levy.

Laromme Hotel. The falling out between Ottawa and Jerusalem over the Mossad's use of Canadian passports in the abortive bid to assassinate Hamas political chief Khaled Mashaal in Anman on September 25 is expected to come up during his talks with Levy.

IN CONTEXT / HERB KEINON

A straightforward battle for power

The struggle in the Likud over the primaries is essentially a battle between the party's central committee and its Knesset elite for power and control of the party.

On the surface, the resounding greeting the party committee gave Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu at the opening of the convention in Jerusalem Sunday night would belie this premise.

Yet, because of the mixed signals Netanyahu has sent about the issue over the last few weeks, he is not viewed by the rank-and-file in the central committee as the force keeping the party from trashing the primaries.

He promised ministers Ariel Sharon, Limor Livnat and Yitzhak Mordechai to do what he could to ensure that the issue does not come up at this convention.

But it has come up, and with a vengeance, and it reveals a dichotomy within the party. Livnat, Mordechai and, especially, Sharon are widely popular within the central committee.

There is a gap between the Knesset members and the party, said Shlomo Kor, a central committee member from Tel Aviv.

The idea behind the primaries was to open things up, to rid the party of the back-slapping that takes part in the back rooms and to bring the selection of the Knesset slate way out into the open.

I'll back you" intrigue and deal-making.

It was in reaction to this culture that Labor opted for primaries in 1992, and the Likud - after seeing how the Labor primaries reinvigorated that party, and with the enthusiastic backing of Netanyahu - opted to follow suit in 1996.

There is a gap between the Knesset members and the party, said Shlomo Kor, a central committee member from Tel Aviv.

Whereas the 2,700 members were once courted furiously by MKs and MK-wannabes, now they are simply ignored.

It was in reaction to this culture that Labor opted for primaries in 1992, and the Likud - after seeing how the Labor primaries reinvigorated that party, and with the enthusiastic backing of Netanyahu - opted to follow suit in 1996.

Barak skeptical about PM's outstretched hand

By NICHAL YUDELMAN

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's bid for "peace and reconciliation" will be tested by his actions, not his words, opposition leader Ehud Barak said yesterday.

Barak also called on Netanyahu to apologize at a Knesset memorial being held today for incitement against Yitzhak Rabin before the assassination.

He commended Netanyahu's appeal for unity at the Likud convention Sunday night, where the prime minister said:

Some Labor Knesset members threatened to walk out during Netanyahu's speech today.

Some Labor Knesset members threatened to walk out during Netanyahu's speech today.

"Netanyahu is not worthy of speaking in Rabin's memory. His recalcitrant words aren't worth a garlic's skin. I personally will not be there," MK Hagai Merom said.

Defending Netanyahu, Science Minister Michael Eitan argued that the coffin that carried in a procession beaded by Netanyahu in a demonstration before the assassination, "was not intended for Rabin, and was inscribed 'Rabin, caretaker of Zionism.'"

He added that Netanyahu did not see the rope dangled over to the coffin.

Merom, meanwhile, contended he had information that Netanyahu planned to appoint French right-winger Jacques Kopfer, who said Rabin should have been hanged in the square, as chairman of the Jewish National Fund.

Some right-wingers thought Netanyahu was not firm enough about refusing to withdraw from the West Bank or Golan Heights in exchange for peace.

MK Ze'ev Begin said that by mentioning only the Jordan Valley and east Jerusalem, Netanyahu had indicated that everything else is "up for sale."

Jihad threatens more attacks

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH

The Islamic Jihad Movement threatened yesterday to carry out attacks unless Israel released Palestinian security prisoners.

The movement demanded the release of activist Arafat Alian, a Palestinian woman on a hunger strike for the past three weeks in Neve Tirza prison, protesting that she was jailed without trial under an administrative detention order.

Because of the threats, the left-wing movement "Women for Political Prisoners," called off a rally they had planned to hold on Alian's behalf outside the Defense Ministry yesterday.

The movement issued a statement declaring that while they would continue to demand that Alian either be tried or released, they could not ignore the threats to spill more blood.

Issa Karake of the Palestinian Prisoners Club said that Alian, who is reportedly ill, was in "very serious" condition.

Alian served 10 years for planning to blow up a government building in east Jerusalem in the 1980's. She was pardoned by President Ezer Weizman and released with 19 other female prisoners after the Hebron redeployment in January.

She was arrested again on October 21 while on her way from Bethlehem to Bir Zeit University to attend a ceremony marking the second anniversary of the assassination in Malta of Islamic Jihad leader Fathi Shkaki. Security forces have refused to comment on the case.

About 200 Palestinians protested against Alian's detention yesterday at Rachel's Tomb. Some threw stones at soldiers, who fired tear gas and bullets, injuring four from a nearby girls' school. Palestinian sources said.

A crowd of 4,000 Palestinians gathered at Hebron University yesterday to mark the release of Hamas leader Sheikh Ahmad Yassin.



Pro-Saddam demos. Palestinian youths chant in support of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein during a demonstration in Ramallah yesterday. Similar gatherings took place in Gaza. Demonstrators called for missiles to be fired at Tel Aviv and burned US and Israeli flags. (AP)

Public urged to learn El Al to land in Akaba

By JUDY SEGEL

Depressed? So are 5,000 of the 70,000 callers seeking help each year from volunteers at the Eran hot line.

According to Nava Peri, director of Eran - a Hebrew acronym for "emotional first aid" - depression is more commonly cited by older callers. She spoke in advance of International Depression Screening Day, which will be marked here today for the second year running.

Awareness of the voluntary organization's activities has increased due to the broadcast on Channel 2 of a public-service announcement financed by the Banks Association and the Kahanov Foundation.

However, Peri noted that Health Ministry cuts of funding to Eran have handicapped its functioning.

Volunteers not only take courses, at their own expense, to qualify, but they work unpaid in the evenings, on weekends and holidays.

Today, the Tel Aviv Cinematheque will host lectures and show films on depression, with guidance by psychologists, psychiatrists, journalists and artists.

El Al to land in Akaba

By HAIM SHAPIRO

When El Al flight 614 from St. Petersburg to Eilat touches down today, it will be landing in Jordan, at the Akaba Airport.

The flight, carrying about 155 passengers non-stop from Russia to the Red Sea resort, will be the first actually destined for Israel to land instead at the Jordanian airport. Akaba is destined to become a joint Jordanian-Israeli airport.

According to an agreement signed September 1, passengers to Eilat will eventually be taken to a terminal next to the Akaba runway, but on the Israeli side of the border. Until the terminal is built, travelers will be bused to the Eilat Airport for border and customs controls.

He added that a few hours after the St. Petersburg flight, Flight 356 from Frankfurt destined for Eilat, with 90 passengers, will also land in Akaba.

They are the first of a series of test flights scheduled to land in Akaba as part of the agreement reached two months ago. The arrangement calls for Israeli guards to escort buses that bring passengers from Akaba to Eilat, while joint Israeli-Jordanian teams are to handle other ground security matters.

Although the plane will be landing in Akaba, "as far as we're concerned it's a flight to Eilat," El Al spokesman Nachman Kleiman said yesterday.

Hassan says proceed to final talks

By JAY BUSHINSKY

Crown Prince Hassan of Jordan called yesterday for expansion of the Middle East peace process beyond bilateral dialogue between Israelis and Palestinians. He called for negotiations with Lebanon and Syria and grappling with final-status issues "which represent Jordanian interests."

Speaking by satellite hook-up to an elite gathering in memory of slain prime minister Yitzhak Rabin in Herzliya, Hassan said, "men of wisdom never die - their legacy lives on." He described Rabin as a beacon guiding the Arab and Israeli peoples on the path to reconciliation. Asked in a live give-and-take segment if he believes the incumbent

government of Israel is seeking peace, the prince replied: "The commitment to peace certainly is there."

Hassan praised former US secretary of state Henry Kissinger, for stating - "if *The Jerusalem Post* quoted him accurately" - that a Palestinian state was inevitable.

He tried to pinpoint the areas in which American and Israeli interests converged.

"It wasn't always easy," he went on. "When in 1973 Israel was in mortal danger and Rabin had just left Washington, the fact that the basic strategy of President Nixon and myself coincided with Israel's requests was an enormous tribute to what Rabin had achieved."

Kissinger's memoir was anticipated by Leah Rabin when she said: "I believe Henry Kissinger and Yitzhak Rabin turned President Nixon into a close friend of Israel. I don't know if we could have survived the Yom Kippur War were it not for the massive help we received from the US."

Advertisement for the funeral of Manfred Meir. Text: We deeply mourn the passing of our dear husband, brother, father and grandfather MANFRED (Meir) MOISE. The funeral was yesterday evening, Monday, November 10, 1997 (10 Heshvan, 5758). The family is sitting shiva at home: 39/20 Sderot Ben-Zvi, Jerusalem. The family.

Advertisement for Shalom Hartman Institute. Text: The Faculty, Students and Research Fellows of the SHALOM HARTMAN INSTITUTE mourn the loss of Sir ISAIAH BERLIN whose writings have had a profound influence on our philosophy of inclusiveness. David Hartman, Moshe Idel.

Advertisement for a memorial session for Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. Text: On Wednesday, November 12, 1997, at 5 p.m., the Knesset will hold a special memorial session for the late Prime Minister and Minister of Defense Yitzhak Rabin, to mark the second anniversary of his assassination. From 4 p.m. on, permanent passes will not be valid in the areas adjoining the plenum hall. Only holders of invitations and special permits will be admitted.

Advertisement for The Rebecca and Joseph Meyerhoff Community Center. Text: WELCOMES its dear friends Betsy and George Hess. Wishing you a pleasant stay in Israel. Moshe Nissilevitch, President.

Advertisement for 'DARING AND ESCAPE' by Luck Chutzpah. Text: "Rabin's perilous escape to join the Free Dutch forces is a story of daring determination and intense passion." Available for \$75 (incl. shipping). Listen to Arutz 7, 711 1143 AM 105 FM.

Advertisement for Hebrew Press. Text: Hebrew Press. A call for circulation.

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Sceptical
PM's
red hand

Jihad
threatens
more attack

By MARGOT GUDKOVIC



Wachsmann remembered
Labor Party leader Ehud Barak hugs Yebuda Wachsmann, father of Nachshon Wachsmann, at a three-year remembrance for the soldier who died in an abortive rescue, after being kidnapped by Islamic gunmen. Barak praised the Wachsmans for the courage they showed during their ordeal and their continued work for national unity and love of Israel following the tragedy. (Itaac Harezi)

B'nai B'rith conference on religion and politics:

'Tolerate the intolerant'

By HAIM SHAPIRO

It is easy to tolerate those who are tolerant towards us. The real test of tolerance is to tolerate those who are intolerant of us. Prof. Shlomo Avineri told a conference on "The Impact of Religion on Politics at the End of the Twentieth Century." Avineri argued that the concept of religion as a private affair is a secular one, derived from Protestant theology. Its relevance is limited, even in nations like the US, where such issues as abortion and prayer in public schools are on the public agenda, and it is even more limited in Israel, Avineri said. Noting that he personally would be more comfortable with a complete separation of politics and religion, he said that religion had

a public aspect which could not be avoided. Thus, he said, one arrived at a compromise such as the one that prevails here, where most buses do not operate on Shabbat, but private cars and taxis are allowed on the roads. It is a situation which makes both sides unhappy, but this is the nature of compromise, he said. "It is an abomination both from the libertarian and the religious point of view," Avineri said. The separation of church and state was easier to accept in the Christian West, where it was based on the theological separation made by St. Augustine between the realm of God and the realm of the state. In Judaism and Islam, he said, there was no such separation, with religion and state seen as one. Bishop Karl Lehman, bishop of

Mainz and president of the German Conference of Bishops, presented a survey of the relations between church and state, especially in Germany. The historical lesson, he said, was that the state could not favor one church over another, but it also could not be neutral to the ethical values of religious teachings. The conference, sponsored by the B'nai B'rith World Center and the Konrad Adenauer Foundation, is to include reports on the relationship between politics and religion around the world. From a local point of view, one of the most interesting speakers will no doubt be Prof. Father George Edelstein, father of Absorption Minister Yuli Edelstein. The elder Edelstein is a Russian Orthodox priest.

The defiant and the indifferent

By DAN IZENBERG

Because he chose to make his home in Elkana, one of the first settlements built across the Green Line, one would expect 33-year-old Maxim Popilov to be all in favor of conversion. There is certainly enough religious and national sentiment in his immediate surroundings to influence him in that direction. But, although Popilov is Jewish, his wife and two young children are not - and he very much does not want them to convert. "My wife and I are not in the least religious," Popilov explained. "I realize our children will not be Jewish and that this is a problem. It's a tough question. We aren't religious but are prepared to accept something of the tradition, but not Orthodoxy - and not out of religious need but only to integrate ourselves more fully." Popilov said he would consider converting in a Reform or Conservative procedure if the conversion were recognized by the state. But given a choice, he would prefer to leave things as they are. "I hope that some day it will be possible to live here without having to be Jewish," he said. Popilov, who immigrated six years ago, has many friends who, like him, aren't interested in converting. "People who live here long enough lose interest in becoming Jews," he said. "Maybe they would have converted when they first came, but not any more. It's hard to get into religion. Perhaps it would have been easier at the beginning, when everything was new."

decided to see what the country was like. She knew nothing about Israel. "I thought I was going to live in the desert," she said. Neither she nor Sasha had friends or relatives here. They decided to live in Ashkelon because Lena thought it was an old Roman town with a history, and because she had been told many young immigrants lived there. After studying Hebrew for six months, the couple tried to move to Tel Aviv but discovered that landlords demanded financial guarantees they could not provide. The next step was a kibbutz in the Golan Heights, but they left after a few months, upset by how they were treated. From there, they moved to Tiberias, where

national family. "We were discussing mixed marriages and he said he would never marry a non-Jewish girl. I asked him what he would do if there was a war and the only survivors were him and two women, one Jewish and not nice, the other not Jewish and nice. He said he would marry the Jew. And this was my best friend!" Lena decided to go back to the Ukraine because she felt she would be just as much an outsider in Australia or Canada as she was in Israel. "I came to the conclusion that people should live where they were born," she said. At one point, Sasha had taken a brief interest in Judaism. "But Israel cures people," said Lena. "We had friends from different countries who had attended Jewish schools and came with the intention of living true Jewish lives here. After a few months, they dropped everything, and most of them eventually left. There are two extremes here. Either people are too religious or they don't care at all. There is no difference between the second type and me. They are Jewish by nationality but they are not Jewish."

wouldn't live anywhere else, even if I was offered a good job and had friends there." Lena found work and settled down to a quiet and very insulated life. "I don't follow politics and have no idea what's going on," she said. "I never watch the news, never watch television." Still, it's difficult to be completely out of touch in an emotional and incident-prone country such as this. "I know about things from other people, like when soldiers are killed, and it hurts me so much," she said. "When Rabin was assassinated, I was shocked that one Jew could kill another. And when Netanyahu won the election, I felt really guilty for the first time in my life that I hadn't voted." Still, Lena and Sasha continue to cut themselves off from the outside world. "I just bought a new stereo and listen to music all the time," said Lena. "We invite friends over and talk, but it's nothing exciting." Living in Israel has not influenced her religious feelings one way or the other. She is a Greek Catholic, but dislikes organized religion of any kind. "I believe that God is one," she said. "It is people who make the problems. No matter how they pray or who they pray to, there is only one God." Sometimes, she goes to meditate at the Church of the Holy Sepulcher in the Old City. She prefers it to the great vaults of her home town. "I go there because it doesn't look like a church," she said. "Huge and beautiful churches like the ones in my home town make me feel small. I can't think there." Ironically, now it is Sasha who wants to return to the Ukraine or start a business that will enable them to travel between the two countries, and Lena who wants to stay put. Although Lena may be less rooted in Israel than other non-Jews, who usually belong to larger families, she likes it enough to want to stay. There are tens of thousands of immigrants like her, who are as committed or even more committed to living here. Around them, a fierce battle, which is splitting the Jewish world, is raging over the conversion issue. The outcome of this battle will, to a great degree, determine these people's future.

Absorbing the non-Jews: Last in a four-part series

Sasha found work teaching in a local high school. But by the summer of 1993, Lena had decided she wanted to go home. "I had had enough," she recalled. "It was my first time abroad and I was in a country with a completely different mentality, in small towns like Ashkelon and Tiberias. I was shocked by the behavior of the men here. In Ashkelon, when you walk down the street, you hear 20 comments in 20 minutes. People were calling me 'prostitute' for no reason. At first I thought something was wrong with me. When it was hot, I wore t-shirts and shorts. So, I started wearing long dresses. But I soon realized that that wasn't the problem. Israeli girls would walk about with low-cut blouses and shorts and no one said a thing to them. LENA WAS also irritated by what she felt was the indiscretion of Israelis. "Everyone said to me: 'You're not Jewish. What are you doing in Israel? What are you going to do when you have kids? You must convert.' People here get too personal, too soon. They hold this kind of conversation even though they don't know you yet." The last straw was a conversation with her closest friend; an English immigrant from a tradi-

HEBREW PRESS REVIEW

By ORLY AHARONI

A call for conciliation

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu adopted a conciliatory tone on the first day of the Likud convention on Sunday "hoping it will not only change his bitter relationship with half the population on the Left, but that it will also alleviate the tense atmosphere dominating the convention," writes *Yediot Aharanot's* Aviezer Golan. He refers to the one minute of silence initiated by Netanyahu, honoring the memory of former prime minister Yitzhak Rabin and his call for unity. "A thousand speeches won't change the truth: the Likud movement carrying the prophecy of Ze'ev Jabotinsky has died," writes Eitan Haber in *Yediot*. "When the idealism ends and what is left is the race for jobs, deterioration begins." Ha'aretz's Yossi Venter states that the second day of the convention is launched in what is perceived as a war: "They [Likud MKs and ministers] know when it begins, they don't know when it will end and how many losses both sides will claim," adding that it is no longer clear who is against whom."

Diplomatic games

The press provided commentary dealing with the American policy toward Netanyahu, following US President Bill Clinton's refusal to meet with him and Secretary of State Madeleine Albright's latest attacks against him in the media. Clinton's refusal to meet with Netanyahu is not an uncommon behavior among American leaders, who have done so in the past, says *Ma'ariv's* Moshe Zak, adding that it is not affected by Clinton's content-

GSS strikes again

The General Security Service's involvement in the surveillance of Athina Onassis, the granddaughter of tycoon Aristotle Onassis, reverberated throughout the media. Although the Israeli agents claim their conduct was legal, writes *Ma'ariv's* Yosef Lapid, "we would have preferred that the names of former GSS officials not be connected to this type of scandal."

Massive rally

The press provides its impressions from Saturday night's rally in memory of Rabin. "It was a political rally, because the assassination was political," writes Michal Kapra in *Yediot*, adding that Kikar Rabin was filled with frustration, rage and rupture. "Optimism was stuck in traffic." *Ma'ariv's* Ron Miberg and Amnon Dankner claim that the massive participation in the rally was a protest against the Netanyahu government. "The crowd reflected more bitterness than yearning, more disappointment from the present than a

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Neeman assails prosecutors at Deri trial

By BATSHEVA TSUR

Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman, appearing as a defense witness in the Arye Deri trial, launched a scathing attack yesterday on the state prosecution.

"The state attorney's office tried to prevent me from being justice minister and found me guilty before it even presented charges against me," Neeman told the Jerusalem District Court.

"In my 30 years as a lawyer, I never saw such a thing," Neeman, a former justice minister, told the court.

Neeman stood cool and collected in the witness stand as Deri's lawyer, Navot Teltz, questioned him. Tension in the courtroom mounted when prosecutor Yehoshua Resnick began cross-examination.

Resnick asked Neeman when he had been approached by Teltz to give evidence on Deri's behalf.

"I don't recall," Neeman replied.

Resnick reminded Neeman that Teltz had asked the attorney-general to not have Neeman appear in the trial and to suffice with the testimony from his own trial.

"That was not at my request," Neeman retorted. "I am happy to come to the court any time."



Yaakov Neeman (Ephraim Kishon)

Neeman: "I said I had been questioned five times already and it was a waste of time."

Resnick: "You are an interested witness, it is true - interested in attacking the prosecution and Brown."

Neeman: "I didn't go to the attorney-general in this respect. I deal with the heavy load of the courts and, in that connection, I mentioned

it was a waste of time for a minister and for the court."

As the heated exchange continued, judges called for both the prosecution and the witness to return to the main subject.

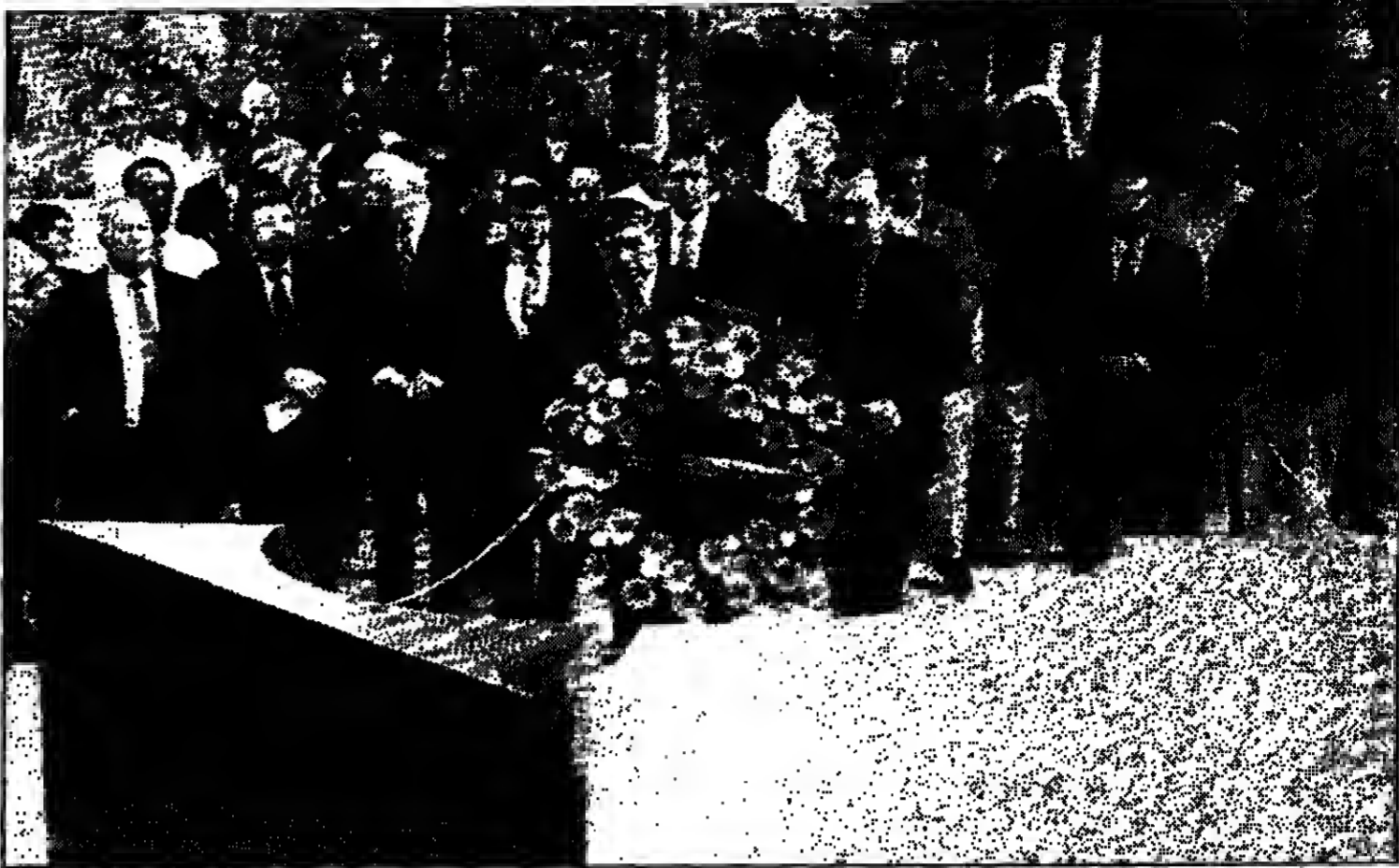
"The prosecution knew that its accusations that I had tried to influence a witness [London-based Martin Brown] were baseless and therefore did not even try to prosecute me on this charge," Neeman said, referring to his own trial in the Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court.

Neeman originally gave legal advice to Brown. It was Brown, who appeared as a prosecution witness, who told the police in 1991 that Deri had taken bribes.

Neeman was later charged, then acquitted, by the Tel Aviv court for allegedly trying to influence Brown to change his version so as not to incriminate Deri.

"At the time [1991], Brown told me the police had put words into his mouth and he was sorry... He was clearly shaking in his boots. I told him to go straight back and tell the truth," Neeman said. He added that he did not want to get too involved with Brown since he knew he was "not completely reliable."

The court was to resume session this morning with Neeman again on the witness stand.



Labor Party chairman Ehud Barak (right) and Knesset faction head Ra'anan Cohen lay a wreath at Yitzhak Rabin's grave on Mt. Herzl yesterday. (Flash 90)

Memorial day for Rabin begins this evening

By ELLI WOHLGELERNTER and LIAT COLLINS

Memorial ceremonies marking the Hebrew anniversary of the assassination of prime minister Yitzhak Rabin will be held throughout the country beginning tonight.

A state ceremony will take place at 3 p.m. tomorrow on Mt. Herzl in Jerusalem at Rabin's grave site. It will be broadcast live on both television channels.

Flags throughout the country will fly at half-mast. The entire school day will be devoted to Yitzhak Rabin's memory, and memorial ceremonies will be held at all schools.

The Knesset will hold a special memorial session tomorrow at 5 p.m.

The session is scheduled to be addressed by Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon, President Ezer Weizman, Prime Minister

Binyamin Netanyahu, Labor Party chairman Ehud Barak, MK Shimon Peres and Education Minister Ze'evulun Hammer (National Religious Party).

Tichon announced that a memorial corner for Rabin will be inaugurated tomorrow at the MKs' entrance to the House. The dedication will include a large picture of Rabin, flanked by flags, memorial candles and flowers. A visitors book will be opened there.

Other events include:

Tonight:
6:30 p.m. March in Jerusalem from the Prime Minister's Residence on Rehov Balfour to Zion Square downtown.
9:45 p.m. Lighting of memorial lights, coinciding with the minute Rabin was shot.

Tomorrow:
12:00, Rabin Square, Tel Aviv: A gathering for 10,000 high school pupils, with the Rabin family, Mayor Ronni Milo, and Chief of General Staff Amnon Lipkin-Shahak.

performers include Rami Kleinstein, Avitar Banai, Ronit Shahar, Matti Caspi.

12:30: Memorial assembly of Hebrew University students, Rothberg Amphitheater on Jerusalem's Mount Scopus. Speakers include university president Prof. Menachem Magidor, Deputy Chief of Staff Maj.-Gen. Shaul Mofaz, and Likud MK Dan Meridor.

3:00: State ceremony for Rabin, Mt. Herzl. Participants include Weizman, Netanyahu, MKs, and members of the diplomatic corps. Psalm 17 to be recited by IDF Chief Chaplain Maj.-Gen. Gad Navon, and kaddish to be recited by Yuval Rabin, the prime minister's son.

8:00: Memorial assembly at Habimah Theater in Tel Aviv.

Sarid attacks anti-Rabin web site

By LIAT COLLINS

Meretz leader Yossi Sarid yesterday complained that a Likud USA Internet site is spreading a conspiracy theory concerning the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin.

The theory, by journalist Barry Chamish, proposes the assassination was meant to be a staged attack to win Rabin the sympathy vote. At the last moment, Chamish claims, the blank bullets in the assassin's gun were changed back to live ones by some unnamed person, probably in the GSS.

A spokesman for the prime minister said the Likud USA site is not an official party site but belongs to a group which is fighting the official American Friends of the Likud. He said there is a lawsuit pending regarding the use of the name and logo of the Likud.

Meanwhile, the Knesset on Friday opened a link on its Internet site (www.knesset.gov.il) in memory of Rabin.

Zo Artzenu leaders to face sentencing for sedition today

By ELLI WOHLGELERNTER

Moshe Feigin and Shmuel Sackett who headed the Zo Artzenu (This is Our Land) organization face up to 10 years imprisonment when they are sentenced today for sedition. Their organization spearheaded anti-government protests the summer before Yitzhak Rabin's assassination.

Sentencing in Jerusalem Magistrate's Court comes two weeks after final arguments were heard.

Sackett said that US Congress Reps. Jim Saxton, Michael Forbes, J.C. Watts and Jon Fox, wrote on October 24 to Attorney-General Elyakim Rubenstein, declaring that they "fail to see how blocking intersections during an otherwise legitimate protest of a gov-

ernment policy can be characterized as 'hatred, scorn or disloyalty to the state.'"

Feigin and Sackett were convicted by three judges on September 3 of wanting "to create a situation where, as a result of their actions, the government would not be able to function - not because of their influence on public opinion, but rather because of a physical inability to function."

The group carried out a string of protests in the summer of 1995, blocking key intersections and attempting to set up temporary settlements on West Bank hill-tops.

The only other Jew ever convicted of sedition in Israel is Binyamin Kahane, in 1993. He has appealed to the Supreme Court.

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BY MICH DEAN POWERS

Holy See and Israel sign pact on status of Catholic institutions

By HAIM SHAPIRO

Foreign Minister David Levy and Papal Nuncio Archbishop Andrea di Montezemolo signed an agreement yesterday that Montezemolo described as an important step in the process of normalizing relations between Israel and the Holy See.

"We have waited for this moment — a message of belief, cooperation and understanding between religions," Levy told guests at the signing ceremony.

The agreement, which deals with the legal status of Catholic Church institutions in this country, is part of the Fundamental Agreement between Israel and the Holy See, signed by the two in December 1993.

There are a number of Catholic institutions working in Israel for the benefit of society. This gives them legal rights, such as the right to own property and to appear in court," the papal nuncio said.

According to the agreement, which Levy described as "short, but complex," the Catholic Church and its institutions in Israel are to have a legal status similar to that of voluntary organizations.

The registry includes the Catholic Church itself, the Catholic patriarchates, papal orders and other



Foreign Minister David Levy exchanges copies of the agreement signed yesterday with Papal Nuncio Archbishop Andrea di Montezemolo.

Church bodies

All the Church bodies listed in the registry are to maintain their internal autonomy, and their internal affairs — including disputes between them — are to be handled by Church authorities according to canon law.

According to the Foreign Ministry, the agreement does not grant immunity to the Church, but rather autonomy to handle their own internal affairs. However, the ministry added, for the execution of the agreement it will be necessary for the Knesset to pass appropriate legislation.

regarding the financial relations between the two sides. Such an agreement would determine whether, for example, an institution such as Jerusalem's Notre Dame Center, which has been classified as a hotel by the Jerusalem Municipality, and as a monastery by Vatican representatives, would be liable for local property taxes, or whether equipment contributed

from abroad for Church institutions would be exempt from customs duty. Montezemolo answered the perennial question of when the pope would visit Israel by saying the pontiff "has it in his heart, but not in his calendar." He added that at one point the pope told him that the visit to the Holy Land was "in my calendar, but without a date."

More hospital sanctions due today

By JUDY SEGEL

Disruptions will persist in the public hospital system today, with outpatient clinics and diagnostic institutes shut down in general, geriatric and psychiatric hospitals.

The sanctions are part of a series of protests launched in September by the IMA against the Treasury's refusal to carry out an agreement to add 360 jobs for doctors at public hospitals.

David Milgrom, the Treasury's budget chief, yesterday claimed the doctors were striking over 150 job slots. He also said that the state has "already arranged with the Health Ministry that the remaining slots will be paid for."

that the insurers are responsible for covering members' hospitalization, not with hospital personnel expenses, except in cases where the health fund has its own hospital system, as with Kupat Holim Clalit.

single penny." The IMA said it would agree to mediation as proposed by Knesset Labor and Social Affairs Committee chairman MK Maxim Levy only if the discussion would focus on sources of funding, and not on principles of the agreement.

'Health bill to cost families NIS 1,000'

By JUDY SEGEL

The Treasury's proposed changes in the National Health Insurance Law would cost the average family an additional NIS 1,000 a year for medical care, the director-general of Kupat Holim Clalit said yesterday.

In addition, they would pay a monthly head tax of NIS 40 to NIS 50, NIS 10 for visits to the family doctor each quarter, NIS 20 per quarter for visits to a specialist, NIS 30 for a visit to an outpatient clinic within a quarter, NIS 50 for hospitalization and NIS 30 for visiting an emergency medicine clinic.

Stormy debate over Beit Jann road

By LIAT COLLINS

The long-running and often violent dispute between the Druse residents of Beit Jann whose land falls in the Mount Meron Nature Reserve and the environmental groups was debated yesterday by the Knesset Interior Committee in a stormy and emotional meeting.

Last week the Knesset passed first reading of a bill submitted by committee chairman Sallah Tarif (Labor), which would allow the residents to build a road on the land to connect Beit Jann with nearby Herzliya, without securing the regular building and planning permits. Previous attempts to build the road illegally have been prosecuted by the Nature Reserves Authority.

"The bill backs these acts and is a very dangerous precedent," he said. Eitan said any harm to the nature



Agriculture and Environment Minister Rafael Eitan

reserves goes against the best interests of the local residents, who can use the land as a tourist attraction. Eitan said he had written to the High Court of Justice with regard to a petition on the road, suggesting it be opened but under the auspices of the NRA. Tarif said he would consult with his faction on the suggestion.

other nature reserves including on the Carmel, Beit Oron, and Ein Gedi. Beit Jann council head Yusef Kablan warned the situation is on the verge of exploding.

"Like we know how to defend the country's borders, we know how to defend our land," Kablan said, referring to the high percentage of residents who have served in the IDF. "Do you want to call in the Border Police to shoot at their brothers and the orphans of those you sent to war?" he asked Eitan.

Kablan said current laws do not allow the villagers to use heavy mechanical equipment on their land. "The time for using donkeys and beasts of burden has gone," he said.

Man held for Afula murders

By DAVID RUDGE

Police have arrested a suspect in connection with the brutal slaying of his wife — the mother of their five children — and a neighbor, in Afula late on Sunday night.

The suspect, Sisi Yamaharan, 32, was remanded yesterday by the Nazareth Magistrate's Court for 15 days. Police said they were called by neighbors who heard shouts coming from the couple's apartment shortly before Sunday midnight.

Magen David Adom paramedics tried in vain to resuscitate the woman, Emrad Yamaharan, 25, and the neighbor, Berara Naudig, 42, and pronounced them dead at the scene.

Abuse of youth by peers rises by 100 percent in the North

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

Sexual, physical and mental abuse of youngsters by their peers is up 100 percent in the North, according to figures released this week by the Union of Local Authorities in Israel.

Abuse is also up in other districts, according to a report turned over to Shmuel Abuav, chairman of the ULA's education committee. A total of 152 cases were reported through September this year.

Abuav said he had received word of abuse taking place in the schools as well. He cited one case involving a 13-year-old Tiberias boy who bullied his classmates into turning over their snack money to him because he was "hungry."

January-September 1996, police only decided to file charges in 22 cases involving abuse of minors in the North, but in the same period this year, 44 files were opened.

In the Haifa district, 16 cases were reported in this period compared to four in the same period last year. In the Ha'amakim district, there were 16 cases compared to six last year.

Only after a significant period of time passed did two of his classmates finally file a complaint with the principal, who turned the matter over to police.

Education Ministry's Violence Prevention Programs, said yesterday "there is no doubt there is violence in the schools. The schools are not islands, and they reflect our society. However, I'm not sure whether the statistics represent a real rise in the number of incidents, or simply an increase in the number of reported incidents."

Rokach said the best programs to fight violence were ones introduced by each school individually to combat specific problems in that school. "The school must feel it needs such a program to make it work," he said.

He said existing guidelines permit principals to open pupils' school bags to search for weapons if the principal believes there is a real suspicion the pupil is carrying such items. The principal is then required to turn the item over to the pupil's parents, while warning them of the seriousness of the situation.

Study shows kids can resolve fights

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

The idea of involving pupils in helping to resolve conflicts involving their peers at school may be a good one, according to a study conducted by the Henrietta Szold Institute and the Hadassah Women's Organization.

It finds that 11 percent of conflicts are resolved with the involvement of another pupil, that 65% of disputes erupt between close friends, while only 18% break out between young people who do not know each other.

The study, conducted by Prof. Yitzhak Friedman and Orit Bendes-Ya'acov, studied some 320 incidents in 12 secondary schools. Their results have been used to prepare films in conjunction with Educational Television, and workshops to help youngsters learn how to resolve disputes or act as mediators or peacemakers in other disputes at school.

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NEWS in brief

Kahalani reminds top brass not to get political
Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani yesterday asked both police Inspector-General Assaf Hefetz and the Prisons Service Commissioner Assaf Hazani to remind top brass officers that they are not permitted to be involved in politics.

Bill would make it easier to get a taxi license
The Knesset Finance Committee debated a bill yesterday that would cancel the current system of licensing cab drivers to enable anyone who meets professional criteria and pays for a license to become a taxi driver.

Swiss banks print WWII-era accounts in newspapers
Swiss banks in Zurich yesterday began taking out newspaper advertisements listing nearly 3,700 more foreign owners of World War II-era dormant accounts.

Project to document Soviet Jewry movement
The first project documenting the Soviet Jewry movement will be launched today in New York by the University of Colorado.

Conference on peace process at Haifa U.
A three-day conference on the stability of the Middle East and the attitudes of Israelis, Palestinians and Arab States to the peace process opened yesterday at Haifa University.

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Monday Dec. 15	"IN DEPTH" IN HAIFA Israel's power-house city is more than that as we'll show you. We'll visit the Pisan Garden at the Bahai Temple, the loveliest in the country, then the Templars area on the Carmel, settled in 1887, Beit Hagefen, the Jewish-Arab cultural center and the Technion, founded in 1924. We'll visit M.J.M., Israel's largest industrial park, home to over 30 hi-tech companies. We'll see Haifa port and harbor and sail in Haifa Bay, visit Stella Maris, the cave of Elijah, the Carmelite Monastery and much more. NIS 230 including lunch. Tour guide: Lior Shorer
Sunday Dec. 21	DISCOVER THE GREEN LINE For many its just a line on the map, but in the not too distant future it will be the main cause of confrontation. Come and speak to "green line residents" in Hashmonaim, Kiriat Sefar, Lapid, Maccabim, Modi'in, and Neve Shalom. If you are interested in Israel's future then don't miss this tour. NIS 210 including lunch. Tour guide: Historian Avi Ben-Hur
Sunday Jan. 11	RETURN TO BEIT SHEAN Thousands of years of history - Greek, Roman, pagan, Jewish - now revealed for all to see. Theaters, temples, bath-houses, markets, frescoes, houses of ill-repute. All the beauty and crusty that paganism offered. Even if you've been before, come again, because so much more has now been revealed, including the "Mona Lisa," in one of the world's most successful digs. NIS 200 including lunch. Tour guide: Gabi Mazar Head of Archeological Authority, Beit Shean.

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Sarid attacks anti-Rabin web site

By LIAT COLLINS

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The business of apartheid

Did South Africa's businesses profit and perpetuate apartheid or was business as a whole a reformist force that helped bring about its end?

By RICHARD MEARES

JOHANNESBURG — The capitalists who grew rich under apartheid and still control South Africa's wealth take the witness stand this week — to beg forgiveness or argue that the past was not their fault.

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission, nearing the end of its quest into notorious racial oppression, will spend three days trying to trace the web of ties that bonded business and the apartheid state.

"Apartheid could not have survived without the support of the intelligentsia or the captains of the economy in our society — but what was that relationship?" said Fazal Randers, commissioner in charge of the hearings.

"Either they were voluntary believers in the system, so it didn't matter about poor labor conditions, pass laws etc, or there was a desire for change, and we want to hear about that," he said.

Trade unionists and other critics say businesses, including the mining houses and huge corporations that still dominate South Africa's economy, profited without qualms from the ample dirt-cheap labor of oppressed blacks who had few rights. The mines laid the foundations with prison-like compounds for segregated black workers and a racially-based contract labor system, says Communist Party leader Jeremy Cronin.

Businesses' liberalism of the 1980s, when they called for political change and even talked to the banned African National Congress, was a ploy to save their skins once the writing was on the wall for white-minority rule — and it has worked splendidly, the critics say.

The opposing view is that business as a whole, including the foreign corporations that did not disinvest, was a liberal reformist force that helped bring about the end of apartheid and a new era of black-majority democracy under President Nelson Mandela.

How much blame the capitalist barons will take for the past is unclear.

Leaders from institutions such as Anglo-American, Rembrandt, the Reserve Bank and the Chamber of Mines are coy about revealing what they will say this week. But submissions from two key business associations show the divergent attitudes that could emerge.

The South African Chamber of Business (Sacob) argued in its written submission ahead of the hearings that discrimination against blacks — poor education, employment restrictions and housing ghettos far from the workplace — had hurt businesses.

"South Africa's economic performance could have been better in the 1960s and significantly better in subsequent decades if apartheid had been scrapped."

Sacob, which says it is seen as representing white liberal English-speaking interests, acknowledged only that "more might have been achieved" but said its predecessor organizations had a long and proud record of opposition to apartheid.

In contrast, the Afrikaanse Handelsinstituut has apologized for supporting apartheid (denoting separate development of South Africa's racial groups) though it too denied that business had benefited from the system. "We should have realized much earlier that moral and economic realities totally contradicted even the most positive view of that policy," its submission said.

It said apartheid's social manipulation, such as the homelands policy of shifting black populations from cities into poor "independent" lands, was cruel and wasted resources, damaging everyone including business. The apartheid government offered big subsidies for companies to follow suit and set up business in or adjacent to the homelands. The policy largely failed but for some at least it meant easy money, when the subsidy per worker outstripped the wage.

The Communist Party's Cronin said in a recent article that the spiralling violence in the 1980s, when the state tried to stamp out black unrest, had helped fill the coffers of many a manufacturer. "A large part of the private sector was deeply complicit in the miniaturization of our society under President P.W. Booth's Total Strategy," he wrote.

Economic friction heightened racial discrimination by whites in South Africa, but workers rather than bosses pushed the country towards the rigid segregation of apartheid after World War Two.

White miners had struck in 1922 to force laws to stop cheaper black workers taking their jobs, and it was white workers in marginal constituencies who clinched victory in 1948 for the hardline National Party, which ruled until 1994.

"What if" arguments still rage about where the economy would be now if majority rule had come during the Cold War decades as in neighboring states, many of whom turned to socialism.

"South Africa had its transition after 1990 and that has been fundamentally important to the economy," said researcher Brandon Hammer, of Witwatersrand University in Johannesburg.

Many whites, seeing economic failure in other parts of Africa, argue that South Africa would have gone downhill if there had been black rule in the 1970s. They predict the same will happen now. But others say the land has always been different, blessed with mineral and economic resources far richer than elsewhere.

South Africa's Oppenheims, Ruperts and other powerful families know that a blanket apology for cosy relations with the white minority governments of the past could cost them. Unions say these families' wealth is ill-gotten so they should be reading now to hand it over to apartheid's victims in the form of training, profit-sharing or transfer of assets.

Randers said the hearings would touch on the present too. "If there is some acknowledgement [of responsibility by business] we would like to hear what they have done since 1994 in terms of [redressing] the gross social inequalities that exist in our society and which were based on race," he said. (Reuters)



Lest we forget

A British soldier stands in front of a bomb disposal truck on Sunday in County Fermanagh, Northern Ireland, as security forces check the area before Remembrance Day services. It is the 10th anniversary of the Remembrance Day bomb which was claimed by the Irish Republican Army and killed 11 and injured 63. Locals have been holding peace rallies throughout the area. (AP)

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Bosnians rebuild their mosques

By TRACY WILKINSON

OMERBEGOVACA, Bosnia-Herzegovina — Sitting in the middle of the ruined homes of this northern Bosnia village is the shiny new Omerbegovaca mosque. Its white minaret reaches skyward, and a dedication plaque thanks its benefactors: Allah and the government of Saudi Arabia.

Mosques that were destroyed during a war that used religion to fuel hatred are being rebuilt in many Bosnian cities and towns, largely with money from Saudi Arabia, Malaysia and other Islamic countries.

But the Omerbegovaca mosque is the first to be built in Republika Srpska, the Serb-controlled half of Bosnia, since before fighting erupted in the former Yugoslav federation in 1991.

And it is probably the only mosque standing in all Republika Srpska.

During the war, more than 200 Moslem houses of worship were destroyed by Bosnian Serb nationalists attempting to cleanse territory of their enemies and all signs of them. A number of Serbian Orthodox and Croat Roman Catholic churches were also destroyed, but not with the systematic efficiency unleashed by Serbs against mosques.

Omerbegovaca is one of several tiny towns clustered south of the hotly disputed city of Brcko, currently controlled by the Serbs, where Moslem and Croat refugees are slowly returning home under 24-hour protection of US troops.

About 170 families have come back to Omerbegovaca, UN officials say, repairing the houses they fled in April 1992 when Bosnian Serbs bombed their villages and seized the land. The Saudi government also has paid to restore the roofs and replace broken windows; US, Dutch and other Western governments have paid for similar projects in villages targeted for refugee returns.

Then work began here in Omerbegovaca on the mosque, erected on the ruins of a mosque destroyed during the war. Its exterior was completed last month. Work is not finished on the interior, where green carpets, emblazoned with the royal Saudi crossed-sword emblem, cover the floors, and prayer beads hang at the ready.

"This mosque is the only evidence we have that this was ours — Moslem," said a young housewife who, with her daughter and unemployed husband, returned to Omerbegovaca five years after being expelled. Their home, with laundry hanging outside and jagged holes in the walls, sits across a dirt road from the mosque.

In Omerbegovaca's forlorn main square, which is little more than the intersection of two muddy roads, a well provides water. The village has no running water or electricity, and there are no shops because shopkeepers would have to obtain permits from Bosnian Serb authorities, and most are afraid to do so.

Humanitarian aid arrives on occasion — sheep, five to a family, were being delivered the other day. A soup kitchen offers free lunches. US troops stationed nearby routinely patrol the mosque in armored Bradley fighting vehicles and, on a recent afternoon, with a mobile battery of Stinger anti-aircraft missiles. Given its symbolism for both sides, the mosque would be a likely target.

When the mosque was inaugurated a couple of weeks ago, the amplified voice of the muezzin calling the faithful to prayer was so loud it could be heard all the way to the outskirts of Brcko, where nervous Serbs are hoping desperately to hold on to their conquered city. UN officials managed to persuade the Moslems to turn down the volume, averting a crisis — for the time being. "Fortunately, not many of the Serbs in Brcko heard it," said one international official, "or we would have had major, major trouble."

Brcko was the one territorial dispute that 1995 peace accords could not resolve; it was temporarily awarded to the de facto Bosnian Serb rulers, but a final decision by an international arbitrator comes in March. In the meantime, the US diplomat appointed to administer the city has begun enforcing rules that require formation of a multiethnic municipal government and police force by December 31.

The task is expected to meet with resistance from Bosnian Serb hard-liners and, coupled with the return of Moslem and Croat refugees, is raising tensions in the volatile region.

Resettlement by Moslems in Omerbegovaca and other villages in Serb-held territory around Brcko is a rare success among refugee returns, which were a key element in the peace accords. It works because of NATO's close attention but is a precarious project that could go awry at any time, international officials say.

Brcko's Serb authorities recently plopped down 27 Serb families in a village that was to be repopulated by its original Croat inhabitants, UN officials said, placing "biological blockers" to prevent the refugees' return.

(The Los Angeles Times)

Russia, China settle border dispute

By OLEG SHCHEDROV

BEIJING (Reuters) - Russian President Boris Yeltsin and Chinese head of state Jiang Zemin yesterday ended a long-running border dispute that exploded into armed clashes in the 1960s.

The two nations also attempted to jump-start stalled trade ties by initiating an accord on a \$12 billion pipeline to bring gas from Siberia to China.

The highlight of the fifth Sino-Russian summit was a declaration laying to rest wrangles over implementation of a 1991 accord that mapped out the entire 4,300-kilometer frontier.

Border tensions have flared on and off for several hundred years.

It erupted most recently at the height of ideological confrontation between Moscow and Beijing as they vied for supremacy in the Communist world.

Red Army soldiers of the former Soviet Union fought skirmishes with Chinese People's Liberation Army troops in 1969 on ice floes along frozen border rivers.

Jiang told reporters the agreement would "create good guarantees for peace, stability and calm on the Russian-Chinese border and will serve to strengthen good neighborly relations between Russia and China, as well as regional stability."

Experts have been haggling over where to place markers on the eastern frontier stretching in an arc from Mongolia to the Sea of Japan. There is no dispute over a 50-km. strip of border in mountains to the west between Kazakhstan and the westernmost tip of Mongolia.

Yesterday's declaration hailed the border demarcation as "a good example of a fair and rational solution of issues inherited from the past."

At a ceremony in the Great Hall of the People, Chinese Vice Premier Li Lanqing and Russian

First Deputy Prime Minister Boris Nemtsov signed three documents aimed at boosting a worryingly low level of trade.

Under a framework agreement on the pipeline, gas would flow from Siberia to China's Pacific Coast for 30 years.

If the project gets off the ground, the gas would also supply Japan and South Korea.

Yeltsin hailed the success of his third state visit to China, and stressed a personal chemistry with Jiang of a kind that was pointedly absent when the Chinese leader met US President Bill Clinton in Washington last month.

"I think that now I understand your president as well as any Chinese does," he told Chinese reporters.

Yeltsin and Jiang locked in a bear hug at the steps of Beijing's Great Hall of the People, and after they emerged from their summit they spoke warmly of their grandchildren at a light-hearted meeting with reporters.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Tang Guoqiang quoted Jiang as saying: "Yeltsin is an old friend; every time we meet it is happy and intimate."

Bitter rivalry between Moscow and Beijing from 1960, following their close alliance of the previous decade, is now almost completely forgotten.

The relationship has blossomed since the late 1980s and is now described by both countries as a "constructive partnership."

Jiang won agreement for a similar "strategic partnership" with Clinton last month.

Immediately after the summit, Yeltsin attended a lunch hosted by Chinese Premier Li Peng. He later met parliament chief Qiao Guh before joining Jiang for a state dinner.

Yeltsin arrived in Beijing on Sunday and is scheduled to leave today for Harbin, capital of China's northeastern Heilongjiang province, which borders Siberia.



Russian President Boris Yeltsin and Chinese President Jiang Zemin embrace after a joint press conference in Beijing's Great Hall of the People yesterday. (AP)

Searching for regional stability

MOSCOW - Fresh from a historic summit with another important Asian neighbor, Japan, Russian President Boris Yeltsin has now shored up ties with Asia's looming giant.

Chinese President Jiang Zemin is also just back from a successful US visit, with promises from US President Bill Clinton of vital expansion of trade and economic ties between the two countries.

But in the post-bipolar world, analysts here and in Beijing insist that one diplomatic relationship's gain doesn't have to mean detriment to another, and Russian and Chinese officials are predicting further breakthroughs toward regional stability and cooperation during Yeltsin's three-day visit.

"Russia and China are both interested in the political and economic stability of the entire region, and the only way to achieve this stability is through the development of solid economics in all the countries," says Vladimir Rakhmanin, deputy director of the Asian affairs department of the Foreign Ministry.

Like other Asia-watchers, Rakhmanin cites economic cooperation as the most troubled aspect of relations between Beijing and

Moscow, as the volume of trade has never exceeded \$7 billion a year - a pitiful sum for two huge countries with abundances of labor and natural resources.

China and Russia have only about 2,000 joint ventures in operation, compared with 280,000 involving Chinese and Western partners.

"The two leaders have reached an agreement to increase bilateral trade turnover to \$20 billion a year," Yeltsin's spokesman, Sergei Yastrzhembsky, told reporters ahead of the summit, while noting that the objective of boosting trade to that level by the year 2000 might be overly ambitious.

Still, Yeltsin's visit to Beijing is universally seen as "extremely important, epoch-making," in the words of Arkady Volsky, president of the Russian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs and leader of a delegation of 57 prominent businessmen who joined the Russian president for the summit.

Volsky predicted that the business envoys will make progress in sewing up long-term projects like a

gas pipeline from Russia's Irkutsk region, nuclear power-plant construction and delivery of electricity to energy-starved China.

Jiang left US officials gloating at the prospect of exporting billions of dollars worth of nuclear reactor equipment to China over the next decade, but Beijing officials say they are just as keen to import nuclear technology from Russia.

Following Yeltsin's visit, China expects to purchase two light-water reactors for a \$3.2b. nuclear plant in Liaoyang.

Major sales of Russian military equipment, including advanced SU-37 and SU-30 warplanes which necessitate endorsement by the Russian and Chinese leaders. China now accounts for about 30 percent of Russian arms exports, buying more than \$1b. worth each year.

Despite the heavy arms traffic, Russia's aim in expanding trade with China is to put more emphasis on mutual development of energy production facilities and manufacturing, said Alexei Voskresensky, an analyst at Moscow's Far East

Institute, a think tank affiliated with the Academy of Sciences.

"Russia doesn't talk about seeking a strategic partnership with China or a regional security bloc; what is being pursued is a constructive partnership," meaning stronger business and cultural ties, Voskresensky added.

Among the accords agreed by Yeltsin and Jiang are also agreements on cooperation in banking, diamond mining and polishing, and protection of endangered tigers.

The most significant event of the summit, however, is the agreement on demarcation of the 4,300-kilometer Sino-Russian border, which has been the source of bitter conflict for decades.

With Russia and China planning significant troop cuts as part of ongoing military reform, settlement of the border issues is an important step that will allow redeployment of armed forces away from the frontier.

Today, Yeltsin plans to spend the day in Harbin. Perhaps symbolically, the northern city which once was a haven for White Russians who fled the 1917 Bolshevik Revolution, is now one of the more promising venues for Sino-Russian joint ventures. (LA Times)

BACKGROUND

By CAROL WILLIAMS

Sachsenhausen camp museum re-opens

ORANIENBURG, Germany (AP) - Five years after neo-Nazis set it ablaze, a barracks at the former Sachsenhausen concentration camp north of Berlin, was reopened as a museum Sunday in memory of victims of the Holocaust.

In a related event, about 200 demonstrators showed up at the town of Gollwitz about 25 kilometers west of Berlin, to protest that town's refusal last month to accept about 60 mostly Russian Jewish resettlers allocated to the village.

Brandenburg state Governor Manfred Stolpe has defended Gollwitz, saying the town did not have enough notification to prepare for the influx. He also denied the townspeople were antisemitic.

Police said one local youth was punched in the face by a demonstrator from Berlin. The demonstrator and five local youths were temporarily detained to prevent further trouble.

A town resident watching the demonstration from a window in his home was slightly injured when he was hit by a rock, police said. No other incidents were reported, and the protest ended peacefully.

In Oranienburg, about 10 km. north of Berlin, about 350 people joined Ignatz Bubis, the chairman of Germany's Central Council of Jews, and other dignitaries at the museum dedication ceremony, where Bubis warned against radical rightist activity in Germany.

There are still those "who deny what happened [in the Holocaust], those who want to forget what happened," Bubis told the gathering.

At the same time, Israel's Ambassador to Germany, Avi Primor, who also attended, said willingness for dialogue between Germans and Jews had improved.

"Today we know that the majority of Germans no longer suppress

the past. That has made a dialogue possible," Primor said.

Restoration of "Barracks 38," which was completely destroyed in a September 1992 arson attack, was financed by the state of Brandenburg and the federal government at a cost of DM 4.3 million.

The reconstructed barracks was dedicated as a permanent exhibition titled "Jewish Prisoners in Concentration Camp Sachsenhausen 1936-1945." It contains photographs and other mementos of persecution at the camp.

The Brandenburg state Memorial Foundation is charged with preserving the museum.

In October 1995, a Potsdam state court found two German men aged 22 and 25 guilty of the arson attack and sentenced them to 1 1/2 and three years in prison respectively.

About 120,000 of 204,000 of

Sachsenhausen's mostly Jewish inmates died of mistreatment and starvation between 1936 and 1945. Many were also deported to Auschwitz.

Germany hails US Congress for backing on Scientology

By ERIK KIRSCHBAUM

BONN (Reuters) - Germany yesterday hailed the US Congress for voting down a resolution accusing Bonn of discriminating against minority religious groups, particularly the Church of Scientology.

Government officials also dismissed claims that Germans were being persecuted because of their religious beliefs and said they were astonished by reports that a German member of the Church had received asylum in the US.

"This shows that reason has prevailed," Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel said after the US House of Representatives voted against a measure urging US President Bill Clinton to express US concern about Germany's treatment of religious minorities, in particular Scientology.

Responding to a separate report that a US immigration court in Florida had granted asylum to a German member of Scientology, Kinkel said: "It can't be possible that there is talk in America about political asylum in this context."

He added that Germany apparently needed to work harder at explaining its position in the US.

Scientology has been waging a highly public international campaign against what it calls discrimination by the German government. It compares the government's attempts to ostracize Scientology

members from state jobs and contracts with efforts by Nazi Germany to discriminate against Jews in the early 1930s.

Germany, which unlike the US does not recognize Scientology as a religion, says the group is a purely economic organization exploiting the weaknesses of its members for profit. It has placed Scientology under nationwide surveillance for possible anti-constitutional activities.

Helmut Bloebaum, president of Scientology in Germany, said the vote in the House of Representatives was a victory, even though the measure was defeated 318-101.

"I find it a very impressive number," Bloebaum said. "It shows a lot of people are very concerned about what is happening to religious minorities in Germany and taking an interest."

Bloebaum said Scientology has documented nearly 1,000 cases in Germany where its members have suffered discrimination or been harassed. More than 130 have been dismissed from their jobs, because of their Scientology membership, he said.

"Sure Germany has a constitution guaranteeing freedom of religion, but if you don't belong to the right religion you are blacklisted," Bloebaum said. "The government has created an atmosphere of hysteria and intolerance."

Citing a number of examples of harassment, Bloebaum said a pharmacist in one northern town was boycotted after her membership became known, and children in Bavaria were thrown out of kindergartens because their parents were members.

Sport clubs and dancing schools had been known to exclude Scientology members, and Bloebaum said disparaging slogans had been spray-painted on the homes of some Scientology members.

"Religious minorities are being harassed in Germany," he said. "The techniques are outright comparable to the early 1930s, when the Nazis began blacklisting Jews and harassing them."

But Foreign Ministry spokesman Martin Erdmann dismissed such claims.

"No one is persecuted in Germany because of their religious beliefs," Erdmann said. "The claims that Germany persecutes people because of their beliefs are absurd. Freedom of religion, of speech and of assembly are guaranteed by the constitution."

He said the German embassy in Washington and a consulate in Florida had been unable to confirm a report in *The New York Times* on Saturday that a German woman had obtained asylum on the grounds she faced religious persecution if she returned home.

US, UN hold conferences on hate groups

By MARILYN HENRY and news agencies

The White House yesterday convened the first "Conference on Hate Crimes," highlighting the American problem of crimes motivated by bias on the basis of race, religion and sexual orientation.

Of special concern to Jewish groups is the proliferation of hundreds of Internet sites that promote racist views.

Experts at a UN meeting in Geneva said yesterday that hate groups are turning to the uncensored world of the Internet to spread antisemitism, racism and

neo-Nazism.

The number of Internet "hate sites" featuring extremist propaganda has doubled in recent years, with some 200,000 users in the US alone.

Under US federal law, hate crimes are those against people or property motivated by bias against a race, religion, ethnic origin or color.

US President Bill Clinton was expected to announce yesterday that he supports legislation that would add gender, sexual orientation and disability to the list of "characteristics" covered by federal law. Some 8,759 hate crimes were reported in 1996, against 7,947 in 1995, according to the Justice Department. It was not clear if the increase reflected an actual rise in hate crimes or a greater willingness of victims to report them.

Race was a factor in 63 percent of all reported hate crimes, followed by religion, 13.9%; sexual orientation, 12%; and ethnic origin, 11%. Some 30% of hate crime victims require hospitalization after an attack. By comparison, only 7% of victims of other crimes are hospitalized, according to federal statistics.

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The French way

Ah, France! Immortal, enchanting and infuriating! They order matters better in France, wrote Laurence Stern, the 18th century author of *Tristram Shandy*.

It remains hard to disagree, even of those French actions that raise much disapproval. It is hardly surprising that the first outbreak of worker unrest in Vietnam this week is ordered on the French model — protesting farmers blocking roads in a revolt against the new world religion of free markets at any price.

Column One



Thomas O'Dwyer

Meanwhile, back in the land that once ruled Indo-China, it is the truckers who again have been efficiently crippling the country with their well-organized harricading of the highways.

However, equally efficient was Prime Minister Lionel Jospin, the socialist leader facing his first showdown with the working classes. Without directly entering negotiations, he successfully pressured the truckers and employers to seal a swift agreement, and having achieved it, made it clear that the government was determined to see it enforced.

The truckers had placed around 200 blockades across France as they fought for a guaranteed minimum wage and proper calculation of the full hours they worked.

Burning the beef

But the strike lasted only five days before union-employer talks delivered a settlement, and Jospin's government looks fair, decisive and efficient at the end of it. Last year a similar strike dragged on for 12 days and made a burning government look even more incompetent.

Even for foreigners, those with no great knowledge of the details, the impression of French labor disputes is fixed by images of blockaded fishing ports, roads jammed with trucks or tractors, British beef or fish being immolated in some fiery sacrifice to the gods of French indignation.

Even more remarkable, if one happens to be in France during one of its periodic labor revolts, is the benign tolerance of the public for the workers' fight to fight with all the means at their disposal so long as violence is avoided.

Of course, if the public is sometimes stuck in traffic jams, it sometimes also benefits — like last year, when we lucky tourists zipped around the Paris Metro free for a whole week. A strike somehow left the trains running, but tickers redundant and barriers open. Now that's ordering things better.

Indeed the French can be a maddening race with their quirky foreign policy, their contempt for the very same Anglo-Saxons who twice in a century had to liberate them from their Teutonic neighbor, their snooty pretensions, and impossible language.

Platonic disdain

"The French don't care what they do, so long as they pronounce

it properly." George Bernard Shaw's observation seems to sum up perfectly the only nation on earth that has refined the grosser physical pleasures of eating, drinking, and dressing to a fine art, while its working and middle classes consider themselves aficionados of all things intellectual.

In anti-intellectual Britain, the Monty Python comedy team used to do hilarious skits of factory workers and cleaning ladies arguing passionately about the theories of Aristotle and Plato as they toiled away in the grime. In Paris they have philosophy cafes where ordinary folks crowd in to do just that.

As someone once quipped, there are only two differences between France and Britain: the food and the people, and France has both. France has the contrariness and the contradiction that both fascinate and repel foreigners.

Look at Paris. The name is a synonym for grace, style and beauty. The city is a state of mind — the Jerusalem of the secular and the lower.

But it remains a village at the core, and vast parts of the city are ugly, decrepit and soulless. Parisians define disdain.

Indeed, French rudeness is staple fodder for Anglo-Saxon comedians; Jay Leno gets a crack at them at least once a week. But this is a very British and American obsession which has become a universal cliché.

American pie

Other English-speakers have different experiences with the French — once they identify where they come from. Irish and Australian tourists often report an instant change of French attitude once they reveal their nationality.

The French are formal and that makes them naturally courteous to one another. Yet they are direct and do not suffer fools gladly.

Their love-hate attitude to things British and American stems from their guilt for really admiring the British, and for consuming Americana trash from movies to Big Macs. Their escape route is to blame it on cultural imperialism.

If Germany is the economic engine of the European Union, then France is its soul. Without France, Europe would be a bleak Orwellian landscape by now.

French strikers always remind us to question the accepted values of the free marketeers, finance houses and stockbrokers. Any country where ordinary working men and women are denied their proper dignity, wealth, culture and the good things of life would be a barren place indeed.

French workers will be damned if they will sacrifice their job security, pensions, hard-won privileges, health plans or overtime bonuses to mere buzz words like downsizing, globalization and digitalization.

And good for them. Before the digital revolution, there was the French revolution and wannabe modern aristos better remember it.

put unruly ministers in their place. We won't let them undermine the prime minister. If they don't like the party platform, they can resign. We won't blindly toe their line. This is the essence of democracy.

But even if — in contradiction to his public comments — Netanyahu has had enough of the primaries and the lack of discipline they cause in the Likud Knesset faction, what is happening is surely not the way he would have chosen to change the way the party elects its legislators.

This rebellion, if it achieves its real ends, calls his leadership into question, shakes his control of his own party, and delivers a smarming blow to his prestige.

Netanyahu's face said it all. He plainly couldn't believe what he was seeing and hearing.

In fact, the delegates aren't out to topple Netanyahu. They are simply declaring their independence. But for running a political organization this is disastrous. In this case the delegates want to reclaim the clout the central committee, of which they are all members, once possessed. But while they may be more pliable on other issues, the development surrounding the issue of the primaries spells anarchy.

MUTINY

Continued from Page 1

"We are all supporters of the prime minister. We back him. We are behind him. But we demand our right to make the decision."

Katz heads the moshav members' faction in the Likud central committee. He was a fellow student activist with Hanegbi and was at his side during the protests against evacuation of the Sinai settlements.

Saddam's massive concealment

Who hid Iraq's secret arms — and how they were caught after six years of UN inspections

By R. JEFFREY SMITH

On Sept. 25, several United Nations inspectors making a routine visit to an Iraqi food testing laboratory in Baghdad decided on a whim to go to the back door, where they encountered several men leaping down the stairway with thick briefcases. When inspectors caught up, they coaxed the men into opening their valises.

Several UN officials familiar with the confrontation say that American microbiologist Diane Seaman, who was leading the team, looked inside and was surprised to find laboratory kits for testing three deadly biological organisms that Iraq has admitted studying for possible offensive use.

The officials said inspectors also found documents linking the conduct of the tests with Iraq's Special Security Organization, thought to be one of three Iraqi groups helping to hide data about the country's illicit ballistic missile, nerve gas and germ weapons programs.



Iraqis demonstrate in Baghdad last weekend to protest the American domination of the UN and to show solidarity with their leadership's decision to expel the American weapons inspectors. (AP)

Four days of questioning in Baghdad failed to yield what the UN team considered a credible Iraqi explanation, according to the officials, so the inspectors decided to push the Iraqi government. They set out in a convoy at night to conduct a sudden search of the organization's headquarters, where Qusay Hussein, the son of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, has an office.

Iraqi soldiers blocked their travel to the site and invoked a claim of presidential security to declare the area off-limits to foreigners.

While Iraq depicted its action as a legitimate exercise of its sovereign rights, the UN commission saw it as another example of the country's desperate effort to hide key details of scientific research that could be related to its weapons of mass destruction.

Such clashes had been occurring with growing frequency, even before Iraq announced last week that it would bar all inspections that included Americans. Its declaration provoked a clash with the Security Council that could lead to further UN sanctions against Iraq after the issue is debated on Monday.

In just the past six months alone, at least 10 short-notice inspections have been completely blocked, according to an Oct. 11 report by the commission to the UN Security Council. Over the past seven years, according to a tally kept by US officials in Washington, as many as half of all these special inspections have been totally or partially obstructed, amounting to more than 100 tense show-downs.

The Iraqi government maintains that the United Nations has been seeking to probe increasingly sensitive government sites at the behest of the CIA, which it alleges is collecting data on the leadership so it can make a new attempt to topple Saddam. But UN officials say the allegation is nonsense, and that Iraq is at worst trying to keep the commission from verifying that it still has a handful of missiles capable of flying more than 370 miles; a stockpile of VX gas stored in binary munitions, and sufficient dried spores of anthrax to kill tens of millions of people.

At a minimum, the UN officials say, Baghdad is using the sensitive sites to protect documents and equipment that could be used to make these weapons if the UN's inspections are ever cut back.

They add that either aim constitutes a violation of the cease-fire resolution Iraq signed at the end of the 1991 Persian Gulf War, which gave the commission's inspectors carte blanche to go anywhere inside Iraq and to destroy any equipment or facilities it proves are associated with such weaponry.

Iraq first admitted in 1995 to having created a program of deliberate concealment to hide certain nuclear, germ and poison gas programs shortly after the war. But it claims

that it stopped this program in 1995, after the defection to Jordan of a senior Iraqi official, Hussein Kamal, the president's son-in-law. "We are 100 percent confident that we have done all our commitments," Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz said at a news conference Friday.

UN officials allege, however, that more than a thousand Iraqi government employees are involved in a continuing massive concealment effort, under the direction of a personal aide to Saddam. They further allege that special rapid reaction military units have been permanently assigned to the effort and ordered to spirit away illicit goods or documents from government facilities during surprise UN inspections — using routes carefully worked out in advance. UN officials say that inspectors have heard that those Iraqis who devise innovative ways to defeat UN monitoring are rewarded by the regime.

UN officials say that even if the latest crisis over its inspections is resolved, this Iraq system is likely to spawn continuing friction with the 15-member Security Council because Iraq's residual weapons capabilities are being protected by the same security apparatus that Iraq's leadership uses to protect itself — in short, those military forces and intelligence services Saddam considers the most competent, trustworthy and immune to outside scrutiny.

"What Iraq has been doing, and the organizations it has been using, almost invites us to want to inspect and investigate sites which are very close to the leadership. If you use the Special Security Organization to hide this stuff and they live in Saddam's neighborhood, then that's where we are going to come," said Ewen Buchanan, the commission's spokesman.

The concealment efforts are allegedly orchestrated by Abid Hamid Makmoud, a

personal aide to Saddam, the officials said. They maintain that he chairs meetings of a concealment coordinating committee that includes Qusay Hussein and the directors of various branches of the Special Republican Guard and the Iraqi secret police. Their responsibilities have allegedly been divided as follows: the committee is responsible for day-to-day management of the concealment effort, while the guard and police hide specific items and acquire additional materials overseas.

The Special Security Organization has an operations center in Baghdad, for example, that keeps close tabs on the UN commission's activities and tries to organize countering moves. Its efforts begin at the commission's headquarters in Bahrain, where inspection teams routinely stop to complete last-minute preparations before flying to Baghdad. The aim is apparently to determine what type of specialists are on the team and thus obtain an early tip-off to what the inspector's targets might be.

Then, the moment the teams drive out of Baghdad in a particular direction, Iraqi "minders" who tag along can be heard radioing ahead to facilities in that area to be prepared for the visit, the UN officials say.

"We know they're importing a lot of shredders" and distributing them to sensitive government installations, said Charles Duelfer, a US diplomat on loan to the commission as its vice chairman. He added that as a result of Iraq's intensifying efforts to block the commission's work, only one or two of the teams has been able to find any documents related to Iraqi weapons of mass destruction work in the past year. "The offices we visit are often empty, having been swept clean moments before we arrive."

Visiting the headquarters of the Iraqi Special Security Organization is comparable to inspecting the CIA's headquarters, Duelfer acknowledges. "We know these facilities have legitimate security functions. But if we are to investigate illegitimate procurement, and find prohibited, concealed materials, we have no choice."

The foreign and domestic directorates of the intelligence service, known as M-4 and M-5, respectively, have been linked by the commission to recent covert efforts to procure missile gyroscopes from Russia and a variety of suspicious goods from Western Europe, including Teflon pipes that could be used to enrich uranium, glass pipes and chemical precursors for making poison gases, and filament winding machines for building nuclear centrifuges and ballistic missiles.

UN officials and diplomatic sources say they have evidence that the intelligence service's purchasing agents have been posted as commercial attaches in Iraqi embassies in Amman, Jordan and several European capitals. A recently completed UN probe of Iraq's secret acquisition of ballistic missile gyroscopes from Moscow suggests it is still using "front companies and individuals on a contract basis," according to the commission's Oct. 11 report.

Some UN officials have also accused the intelligence organization of involvement in more brazen acts of defiance and intimidation. In 1992, for example, the hotel apartment of the commission's first chairman, Swedish Ambassador Rolf Ekens, was burgled in an incident that federal law enforcement officials privately told the UN was highly suspicious. US intelligence officials also warned Ekens in 1995 that an Iraqi agent in New York was attempting to become friendly with a member of his staff. UN officials also say that inspectors on loan from several Western governments have received mysterious, threatening telephone calls at their homes.

(The Washington Post)

ANARCHY

Continued from Page 1

There were at first contradictory indications at the Tel Aviv Fairgrounds as to whether this was a popular, spontaneous insurrection or whether it was in fact being directed from above, via the Prime Minister's Office Director-General Avigdor Lieberman.

On the one hand, the rebels were given generous facilities. They had a pavilion at their disposal and they came prepared with electronic equipment and campaign material, including huge printed placards urging Katz's election and the return of power to the central committee.

"Trace of Lieberman," murmured a disgruntled Likud minister.

But if one listened to the delegates, one could hear genuine indignation and even passion. Yisrael Ashkenazi from Zichron Ya'acov said that "with all due respect, the ministers don't own us and they don't own the party. The party is us — plain people; this is its greatness. We support the prime minister — we love and admire him — and our aim is to strengthen him. We want to

MUTINY

Continued from Page 1

With the entire party leadership at a loss, Netanyahu declared the proceedings closed until after the secret ballot vote for presidential chairman, in the hope that in the interim tempers could be cooled.

In a final effort to deny charges of duplicity — that he has been claiming he wants a delay in the primary vote when in fact he wants them eliminated now — he told the delegates: "I mean every word I say. There are no games here, no winks, no hidden meanings. Please engage in soul searching."

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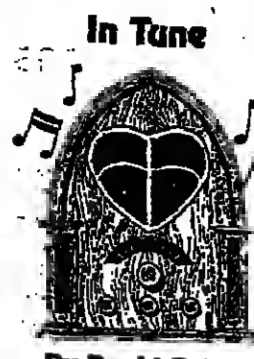
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מזכרון השנה

Songs of voices past



By David Brinn

That netherworld between the summer blockbusters and the holiday-season onslaught in the music business is traditionally filled with songs of voices past. That way, the suits figure, there's no risk involved with unknown elements or artists in decline. Repackage, change the order a little, splash on a new cover, and presto, you have yet another Greatest Hits package.

- LENNON LEGEND**
John Lennon (NMC)
- QUEEN ROCKS**
Queen (NMC)
- THE BEST OF DAVID BOWIE 1969-1974**
David Bowie (NMC)
- GOOD FEELING**
Travis (NMC)

cumbed to Aids in 1991; and David Bowie, who committed artistic suicide years ago.

Lennon Legend is basically a rehash of Lennon's post-Beatles solo career, which has already been documented to death, pardon the pun. Not much care has gone into the packaging to make it stand out from the pack.

The photographs are classy, but the songs are not in chronological order, there's scanty information about the origins of the recordings and there's no attempt to put his career into any kind of historical perspective. Sure, the songs are for the most part Lennon par-

excellence, but I can't imagine any Lennon fan not already owning everything here. On the positive side, at least they didn't include the ghoulis "Free As A Bird."

QUEEN Rocks suffers from some of the same symptoms as the Lennon collection. Someone haphazardly selected a cross-section of the British band's tunes from various phases of its career, neglecting to consider whether they belong on a "Best Of" compilation.

The highlights clearly lean towards the band's early work. "Tie Your Mother Down," "Now I'm Here" and "Keep Yourself Alive" are prototype tuneful metal which countless bands have spent years copying.

Unfortunately, the emphasis here is on the band's work in the 1980s when pomposity and self-parody had taken hold. To top it off, the omission of "Bohemian Rhapsody" is unforgivable.

The inclusion of a new song recorded this year "No One But You" is an anemic ballad which falls far below Queen's standards, which had fallen pretty low by the end of its career.

ON The Best of David Bowie 1969-1974, the chameleon-like pop innovator proves why he deserves to be the richest rocker in Britain. Switching personas and styles from album to album, Bowie created a stunning body of work early in his career. This collection also fails to keep to chronological order (are all record compilers mathematically challenged?). But it floats skillfully through his folk, hippie stage to his space-age glitter man and everything in between.

Bowie's highly developed sense of melody and showmanship melds perfectly with the monster guitar riffing of Mick Ronson and the results have influenced young rockers to this day.

Bowie eventually reached puberty and his voice dropped an octave or so. Following some interesting excursions with Brian Eno and Kraftwerk-like pop, he began to make disco albums and hasn't produced anything memorable in 15 years. But for a while, he really was "The Prettiest Star."

IF ALL this backward gazing has proved depressing, rest assured



'Lennon Legend' is basically a rehash of Lennon's post-Beatles solo career.

that a ray of sunshine surfaces in Good Feeling, the debut album by a band from Glasgow called Travis. Taking its cue from mid-'60s prototypes like The Kinks and The

Who, the band plays basic rock with reckless abandon and tuneful playfulness.

Trashy without being dumb, Good Feeling barks back to the days when rock 'n' roll did pre-

cisely that - give it a good feeling. Simple, basic three-chord rock, performed in panache and heart.

This little gem could prove to be the rock debut of the year.

Piano trio brings 'Ghosts' and 'Aliens' from Zurich

Concert Roundup



capricious. The selection of a Zurich-based ensemble for opening a series supposed to introduce local young talents may, likewise, have caused some raised eyebrows. Only when it was revealed that these young musicians, hailing from three countries, had first met at this center at an international music encounter four years ago and have been performing together ever since, did the center's proud achievement become obvious. After the initial shock effect of the unconventional tempi

- considerably faster than an allegro vivace e con brio is supposed to be, in Beethoven's "Ghosts" Trio, and markedly slower than what one expects from a molto allegro agitato (Mendelssohn's

The Zurich Piano Trio
Trio by Beethoven,
Mendelssohn and Rihm
Jerusalem Music Center
October 31

Trio op. 49) - had worn off, these justified themselves convincingly as the players went ahead. The ghosts' alacrity injected refreshing energy and liveliness into the movement without losing breath or sounding hurried, and Mendelssohn's slow-motion allegro permitted one to savor its captivating tunefulness to the full and celebrate its heart-rending melodic turns. There was a champagne-like sparkle in the scherzo, and the

Mendelssohnian fairies hovered with midsummer's-night lightness in the finale.

For the sake of contrast, Wolfgang Rihm's Alien Scene III transported one to unfamiliar and unpredictable regions of sound. Seemingly coming out of nowhere, eerie high-strung tones alternated with explosive outbursts, only to fade out into nowhere again. This unwholesome yet gripping atmosphere was created by the Zurichers with as much intense involvement as the Romanticism of Beethoven and Mendelssohn.

Ury Eppstein

THE Atlas Camerata orchestra conducted by Dalia Atlas, usually leading its somewhat hidden existence in Haifa, came to Jerusalem for the season's opening concert of the Etna chamber music series. Its attractive off-the-beaten-track pro-

gram - except for a Mozart divertimento - included the world premiere of an elegy by the Anglo-Jewish contemporary

The Atlas Camerata
Works by Mozart, Rihm,
Bloch, Avni and Tapp
Jerusalem Theater, December 3

composer Alexander Knapp. In its Romantic, far from contemporary style, it seemed to continue the spirit of the preceding Serenade by Elgar, until a violin solo nostalgically revealed the composer's Eastern European Jewish roots.

The program opened with Zvi Avni's solemn tenor agitated Prayer, in celebration of the composer's 70th birthday. The sensitivity of the rendition captured its inherent spirituality.

The concluding works by Bloch - Concerto Grosso No. 2 and Allegro frenetico from his String Quartet No. 1, in

Atlas's arrangement - were brought wonderfully alive and close to the listener in this inspiring performance.

The Atlas Camerata, though chamber-size, produces a sonorous, well-rounded and delightfully balanced sound. It responds acutely to the conductor's good intentions and plays with elasticity, clear-cut articulation, delicate shades of dynamics and lively drive. Its potential for a significant contribution to the country's music life, even beyond the municipal boundaries of Haifa, seemed obvious.

Ury Eppstein

PERGOLESI's infrequently heard 18th-century masterpiece La Serva Padrona was offered last week at the Sinfonietta, Beersheba. The comic scene - repartee and arias between a servant girl and her bumbling master - featured lanky Eli Gorenstein in a brilliant basso-buffo performance. His voice is modest in size, but he stretches its potential with infinite

shadings from falsetto to robusto and highlights these with a rich vocabulary of theatrical movements. Sharon Rostorf's well-sung and cheerful soprano was more conventional.

Conducting from the harpsichord, Dan Etinger filled in the chords, while the Sinfonietta gracefully backed up the singers with treble-bass polarity in the

'La Serva Padrona' by Pergolesi
Beersheba Sinfonietta
Beersheba Conservatory
November 6

well-known Baroque intermezzo. Etinger led the full orchestra in the second half of the program in arias from Mozart and Rossini operas. His lyricism and sensitivity to sound were a refreshing change from the usual time-beating school of stick technique.

Max Stern

DANCE ROUNDUP

Ido Tadmor bares his soul

By ORA BRAFMAN

Ido Tadmor lights up the stage, for his presence is electrifying. Not just because his superb physical capability surpasses local standards but because he has a rare need and ability to bare his soul. His vulnerability, sensitivity and yearning, combined with his total commitment as a performer, make him stretch and reach higher, farther, deeper, thus dooming him to dance on an emotional edge. For all these reasons, Tadmor has become a world class dancer-artist.

Uranus, his third full-length choreography, opens with five



JOC combines Moldovan tradition with Swiss precision.

CURTAIN UP debuter: 'Uranus' by Ido Tadmor; 'Emma Goldman's Wedding' by Barak Marshal; 'Quest' by Yossi Yungman; 'Duet' by Inbal Pinto; 'For Better or Worse' by Soula D'Orleans Juste Suzanne Dellal

long white tulle canopies; inside of each is a pair of dancers. As the lights go up a bit, one sees that the male dancers are nude. This intense moment is over within seconds. The mood changes and the canopies become flowing angelic dresses. The work is a collage of fleeting images, moods and temperaments.

Most of the time the sequences work well, but the choreography needs some tightening. The closing

scene is not well related to the rest of the dance and only serves to clutter it. The best moments occurred when Tadmor gave it his all and turned his solo into a touching duet and when he let go of his ego and revealed a funny, playful but somewhat racy scene with tiny percussion instruments placed on gender-indicative body parts. An interesting work, well worth seeing.

IT'S always a delight to see a dance that is sharp and crystal clear, that springs from a wildly imaginative mind overflowing with humor. It is a double treat to see it performed by two talented

dancers. Inbal Pinto and her Spanish partner Veronica Sandoya are two well-synchronized dancers who do not need music as long as they can click their tongues - and they certainly can. Pinto has proven herself to be one of the most unique voices on our dance scene, and one of too few with perfect timing.

BARAK Marshal has a natural and appealing ability, like controlled white water, unspotted by dance training. In this work, the dance sections were well choreographed and performed by a group of enthusiastic dancers.

Barak fortified the work with his

trump card - his mother, Mgalit Oved, the superstar of Inbal's '50s. This woman is phenomenal. She recited long sections from the Bible and told some stories in her unique, vivid and powerful voice, accentuating her Yemeni accent. If he is water, she is oil; the fact that she doesn't mix does not diminish the pleasure of watching her.

JOC is a veteran folk dance company which has been led by founder Vladimir Kabet for the past 50 years. Six companies flourished in the '50s, mostly in socialist countries, particularly in the eastern bloc.

JOC
The National Dance
Ensemble of Moldova

The basic concept is if you take folk songs, folk dance movements, ethnic national costumes and mix them together with these performers, you will have a hit. The formula has seemed to work for ages, particularly at the time when the national state of mind needed a boost. Luckily, the best companies never lacked audiences around the world, creating the optimism and vitality that this company transmits.

JOC presents a highly commercialized product with Swiss precision, and the dancers' blend of rigor and tempo is accompanied by fine musicians.

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Revealing Ravi's role

The cabinet, in voting yesterday to release secret portions of the Shamgar Commission report, took an important step for democracy. Equally important, the decision should go far in putting to rest irresponsible conspiracy theories regarding the murder of prime minister Yitzhak Rabin.

Citizens of democracies rightly pride themselves on the relative transparency of their governments. Secrecy in democracies, not surprisingly, tends to be treated with suspicion—at best as a necessary evil. Of course, democracies have legitimate security interests and it is necessary to protect them. The price, however, can come in the form, not just of compromising the public's general right to know, but in the coin of conspiracy theories that undermine trust in government.

The same media that are, rightly, a major force in pressing governments to keep secrecy to a minimum, can at times exploit secrecy to fan irresponsible fantasies about what went on behind closed doors.

Hatzofeh, the newspaper affiliated with the National Religious Party, abused the press's critical role when it published a feature piece that gave credence to the idea that elements of the security services conspired with Shimon Peres to assist in Rabin's murder.

In its editorial, the same newspaper commendably called for the very conspiracy theories that it had resuscitated to be put to rest once and for all. Though we certainly respect the principle that newspapers must publish a range of views, including those that contradict its editorial stance, there must be a limit to the range of legitimate opinions.

Publication, even when accompanied by an editorial of an opposite point of view, can establish an idea as a legitimate element of the public debate. The idea that the security services conspired in Rabin's murder does not deserve even this level of recognition.

The damage that such publication can cause was quickly demonstrated when Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman remarked that the *Hatzofeh* story should be investigated. Neeman, normally thought to be one of the more savvy government ministers, quickly backed down from these remarks and apologized personally to Shimon Peres. A flurry of official denunciations of the conspiracy theory, from Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on down, all helped to put the genie back in the bottle.

The cabinet decision to declassify parts of the

Shamgar Commission report is a concrete step towards clearing the air. It should also go a long way towards shedding much-needed light on a legitimately disturbing aspect of the General Security Service's behavior before the murder, namely a role of the GSS agent Avishai Rabin.

In a recent television interview, former GSS chief Carl Gillon confirmed the widely reported fact that Rabin had been working for the organization he led. Gillon minimized Rabin's direct influence on Rabin's murderer, Yigal Amir, and explained that the government must use such agents to penetrate extremist organizations.

Few would question Gillon's contention that agents are necessary and that they must act like extremists to be successful in their work. The question here is whether the GSS crossed the fine line between legitimate efforts to combat extremism and actually contributing to the murder itself, however inadvertently and indirectly.

The Rabin case caused an ironic reversal of roles, with some on the Right arguing that Rabin's personal involvement could have been a significant factor in leading Amir to act, while some on the Left are dismissing the focus on Rabin's role as a smoke screen for broader complicity of the rightwing in instigating the murder.

In the end, the attempt to exploit the Rabin case for political gain can only do each other out. If incitement played a role, it is critical as the Left would argue, then Rabin's role, as a government agent, cannot simply be brushed off. But if Rabin is as central as the Right will argue, then so was the whole extremist milieu he infiltrated and the political machinery that created it.

The truth, as usual, is somewhere in between. No society is completely free of extremism, certainly not of lone individuals who are willing to murder for political ends. Such individuals ultimately bear the responsibility for their own deeds, no matter who or what they claim inspired them. But the fact that such violent extremists will exist under the best of circumstances does not absolve society from its responsibility to isolate them, root them out, and undermine the ideological soil that sustains them.

Light must be shed on the role of Rabin, not as part of some political agenda, but because the public has a right to know the truth. Perhaps then we can put the conspiracy theory behind us, and focus on how to learn from the tragedy in ways that heal our national wound rather than



Right of return

RUBY RIVLIN

According to the specifics of the Oslo Accords, Israel agreed to allow the Palestinians to build an airport on condition that control of the airport would be ceded to Israel. It was thus that the area surrounding the village of Dahaniya—situated in Israeli-controlled territory, inhabited by former collaborators who are, for obvious reasons, unable to live in the Palestinian autonomy—was selected as the location for the terminal.

The map of the Gaza Strip which delineates the division of land between Israel and the Palestinian Authority is different from that of Judea and Samaria. In Gaza there is no Area B (an area which has civilian Palestinian control alongside Israeli military control); instead there is a clear division of areas under Israeli control and those controlled by the PA.

The choice on the part of cartographers of this particular location for the airport—between Dahaniya and Rafiah, on the coast—was an obvious one, as it satisfied two requirements: a runway long enough to enable modern planes to land safely, and the leaving of complete control of entry into the Palestinian autonomy in the hands of Israel. It had been agreed that the landing strip would pass through Area A, while the terminal would be built in Area C.

But the construction of the airport turned out to be yet another breach of agreement on the part of the Palestinians. The terminal ended up being built within Palestinian territory about 600 meters from its designated point. This was not due to error;

The Dahaniya airport will become a deplorable precedent, serving as a model for all future border-crossing

It was a calculated decision made by Yasser Arafat, who understood that this was a matter of principle—one which would become the touchstone of Israel-PA relations as a whole.

NOW Arafat is asking that Israel recognize—not only de facto, but de jure as well—the current location of the Palestinian terminal, and permit the operation of the airport, while forfeiting one of the central principles on which the late prime minister Yitzhak Rabin stood throughout every stage of the negotiations: Israeli control over entrance into the Palestinian autonomy.

To my great disappointment, Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai—and perhaps Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, as well—is tending towards granting the Palestinians this gesture. Doing so would be a terrible mistake. The Dahaniya airport will become a deplorable precedent, serving as a model for all future border-crossing.

In response to a question I posed during a recent Likud faction meeting, the prime minister compared the Dahaniya arrangements to those of the airport in Geneva, through which there is entry into both Switzerland and France.

But Israel is not France, and Arafat is certainly not Swiss. Comparing Israel's relations with the Palestinians to those of Switzerland and France is not only dangerous, but goes against the principles of the Likud, which opposes giving a seal of approval for political sovereignty to the PA.

The whole point of our opposing a sovereign Palestinian state is to prevent the Palestinians from achieving the right of return. Recognizing the Palestinian right to operate the Dahaniya airport without full Israeli control—not just technical control or supervision—would constitute a turning point on a course towards granting full sovereignty to the Palestinians.

Such sovereignty would enable them to realize the right of return as they see it, without Israel being able to stop them.

Even in this age of recognition of the Palestinian right to self-rule, the Jewish state wishes to keep one prerogative to itself: the right of return for Jews alone. This is the key to coexistence in a democratic Jewish state: a solid Jewish majority alongside an Arab minority.

The writer is a Likud MK.

Mourning a slain leader

SUSAN HATTIS ROLEF

One week separated the date on the civil calendar and the date on the Jewish calendar of the second anniversary of Yitzhak Rabin's assassination. A week in which many of us would have liked to concentrate on mourning our slain leader, but in which most of the attention has been focused on cockeyed conspiracy theories and a cynical political debate regarding the role of incitement in bringing about the assassination.

For the extreme right-wing lunatic fringe, it has been a week of joy and thanksgiving. I do not believe that there is anyone in the current Israeli government, who belongs to that group, or who does not wish that the events on the evening of November 4, 1995, had turned out otherwise. Nevertheless, the attitude of several members of this government toward the background to those events is highly disturbing.

While there is no doubt that the role played by the extreme right-wing activist and provocateur Avishai Rabin, who was also a General Security Service agent, leaves many unanswered questions, the attempt to blame Rabin for all the incitement against Rabin and the peace process in the months which preceded the assassination—or to hint that the GSS might have deliberately used Rabin for this purpose—is sickening.

Rabin may have been responsible for the poster showing Rabin dressed in an SS uniform that was hoisted at the demonstration of Zion Square in downtown Jerusalem, but there were thousands of other posters, depicting Rabin as a traitor, for which he was not responsible. Furthermore, he was not responsible for the rulings of several rabbis that *din moser* (the halachic sentence on an informer) or *din rodef* (the halachic sentence on a persecutor) applied to Rabin, who was therefore a legitimate target of libelous venom which was published two years ago, and is still being published today, in the hard-core paper *Hamodia*.

Others were responsible; others who later helped get Netanyahu elected prime minister. And Netanyahu pretended not to have seen the banners they were carrying and not to have heard the words they were shouting.

In his article on this page last week, Netanyahu argued that if Rabin were alive today, he would have found all the talk about incitement having been responsible for his own assassination, distasteful. But Rabin is dead. He is dead because a religious law student who objected to his peace policy lived in an environment in which wishing that Rabin was dead was considered the bon ton. Indeed, he was assured by some rabbis whom he consulted that *din moser* and/or *din rodef* applied to

Instead of the last week having served as a focus for national reconciliation, it has been used to perpetrate blind hatred

If not affirmative action, what?

WILLIAM F. BUCKLEY JR.

Affirmative action is front and center again with the vote in Houston. Less conspicuously, but as resonantly, the whole question is raised by Glenn Loury in the current issue of *The Atlantic Monthly*, where Loury, a Boston University scholar, reviews "America in Black and White," the massive update on the race question by Harvard scholars Stephan and Abigail Thernstrom.

It is Loury's position that the call for affirmative action is in fact the Civil Rights Act of 1964. There is irony in so labeling it, because, of course, repeat of affirmative action would not actually advance the cause of the American black. At least not in the immediate perspective.

It is persuasively argued that a black student admitted to a college—insufficiently equipped to meet the demands of that college ends up either dismissed for bad grades or graduated with bad grades concealed. Either way he is worse off than if he had been rejected and gone elsewhere.

And of course it can be held—and again persuasively—that the Civil Rights Act of 1964 restores to non-blacks their Amendment rights to equal treatment under the law. It is widely noted that what happened in Houston—a defeat of the proposed anti-affirmative action plebiscite by 55 percent to 45 percent—was substantial but owing to semantical manipulation.

Opponents of affirmative action had proposed the following formulation: "The City of Houston shall not discriminate against, or grant preferential treatment to, an individual or group on the basis of race, sex, color, ethnicity or national origin in the operation of public employment and public contracting."

That was replaced by the following: "Shall be charter of the City of Houston be amended to end the use of affirmative action for women and minorities in the operation of City of Houston employment and contracting, including ending the

ment of the pigment," the Jesse Jackson-type phrase the Thernstroms attach to the mood of those who say that blacks are fated forever to suffer from the color of their skin.

In his lengthy review Loury rejects the factual assertions of the Thernstroms. He gives his reasons for contending that there is still residual disadvantage to being black in America. He counters the pigment jingle with his own, the "enigma of the stigma."

Why is it that blacks continue to be conspicuous no matter what they do, whether they play basketball or adorn the faculty of BU (Loury is black)? He wonders what it is that the white community has to contribute to a problem not necessarily of its making (a 21-year-old white-collar Houstonian doesn't think himself scared by the Jim Crow of his grandparents).

An end to affirmative action will certainly reduce the number of young blacks matriculating at the law school in Austin. But shouldn't the termination of affirmative action trigger fresh enterprises to cope with such a development?

WHAT is the role of social conscience in the matter? The Thernstroms can be likened, one observer of the contention has remarked, to the surgeon who has taken vast pains to do everything he can for the patient. At the end of his labors he goes home. Such is the inclination of the white majority today: We've had a lot of civil rights bills, a lot of affirmative action, a lot of welfare. The patient must now live or die on his own. Is that morally responsible?

Loury doesn't think so. Many will take the position that whatever is now done for the patient isn't a medical procedure, involving the use of government. It is the quiet care and encouragement of a sensitive white community.

OK, but let's hear that concern expressed and acted on.

(Universal Press Syndicate)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

APOLOGY NEEDED

Sir—Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's strong condemnation of political assassination "We must never forget," (November 4) is to be appreciated.

However, his doubt that prime minister Yitzhak Rabin "would agree with the notion that his murder was caused by incitement and campaign rhetoric" is out of place. He has no right to presume what the late prime minister might think. He could ask his widow, Leah Rabin, who was also the subject of right-wing harassment and hate rhetoric, what she thought her husband might have thought. One recalls that before his assassination, the late prime minister

UNFAIR ATTACK

Sir—In his column of October 24, Thomas O'Dwyer attacks the prime minister as a buffoon, a charlatan and a liar. He speaks of his "smarmy face," "his insincere smile," and so on. All these remarks must be condemned together with other aspects of his article.

No one can determine sincerity or insincerity from a person's

FROM OUR ARCHIVES

Dates for Tuesday, November 11, 1997:

Sixty years ago, on November 11, 1937, *The Palestine Post* reported that Yehia Mansour, a Yemenite Jew, was shot in the back and killed as he was about to enter the Yemenite Synagogue in the Old City of Jerusalem.

Regulations were being enacted by the Palestine Government to provide for the establishment of Military Courts with the power of imposing death penalties for carrying arms, bombs or other explosives causing sabotage and intimidation. Immigration amendment was enacted empowering the High Commissioner to control immigration.

An attack was made on the Mekor Baruch suburb of Jerusalem shortly after midnight.

50 years ago: On November 11, 1947, *The Palestine Post* reported from Lake Success that the termination of the Palestine Mandate and the withdrawal of British troops from Palestine on May 1, 1948, was agreed upon by the Soviet Union and the US. On this date, Arab and Jewish militia would assume responsibility for law and order. Independent Arab and Jewish States were to come into being on July 1.

The cost of resettling in Palestine 150,000 Jews from European Displaced Persons camps in the next two years would amount to about £100 million. Mr. Robert Nathan told the planning conference of the Council of the Jewish Federation of Welfare Funds, representing 90 per cent of the Jewish population of the US and Canada.

In Jerusalem Elishah Dahah, 17, Haim Eckhauser, 22, Rabbi Avraham Hamdi, 76, and his son Yehia, 35, faced Military Court charged with possession of arms and ammunition, while sentences of seven years' imprisonment for printing *Irgun Zvai Leumi* leaflets were passed on Avner and Moshe Senior and Yosef Kar. A third Military Court was established to help the two to clear up the backlog of pending cases, in addition to Military Court in Haifa and Summary Military Courts in Jerusalem, Tel Aviv and Haifa.

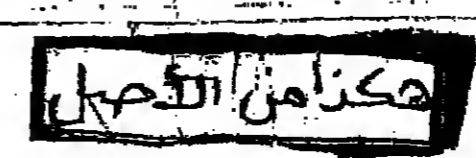
Alexander Zvielli

The Jerusalem Post

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Blessings of



Indian Jews fight for recognition – again

The dispute over the Jewishness of the B'nai Israel of India was settled decades ago – or so members of the community thought. But a Petah Tikva rabbi is refusing to register their marriages.
Allison Kaplan Sommer reports

When Orly Solomon dreamed about the week before her wedding, she imagined herself tending to the last-minute details: making sure her dress is perfect, the hall is prepared, and that the flowers will be in the right place when she stands under the wedding canopy.

But instead of focusing on her wedding to Ra'anana Weld, scheduled to take place on Thursday, Solomon has been spending her time arguing with rabbis and clerks, and being interviewed by the media, after being caught unexpectedly in the center of a controversy over the legitimacy of her Judaism.

"It's supposed to be the most wonderful time of my life, and instead, it's been the most stressful," she says. "I never imagined in my wildest dreams that I would have to fight for my wedding."

Solomon is the daughter of parents who are members of B'nai Israel, who came to Israel from the Jewish communities of New Delhi and Bombay in the 1960s. Last week, on Sunday, she was informed that Baruch Shimon Solomon, the Ashkenazi chief rabbi in Petah Tikva, had issued an interpretation of Jewish law which cast doubt on whether the Indian immigrants and their children were truly Jewish, and ordered the clerks in the marriage bureau offices to refuse to deal with the cases. To those who protested the policy, he explained that he would only validate their marriages if they underwent a ritual immersion for conversion purposes to assure him of their Jewishness.

Orly Solomon, who grew up in Israel, came from a traditional family, served in the army and had carried around identity cards declaring her Jewishness her

entire life, was horrified. Solomon, like two other Petah Tikva women, Shula and Simha Tsriker, who experienced the identical problem the same month, flatly refused to undergo the conversion.

So for several long days last week, pressure was applied on the Petah Tikva chief rabbi through rabbinical consultations, pleas by the family to politicians, and public appeals.

While that was happening Solomon considered her alternatives: find another municipality which would agree to register her and her fiancé and keep her plans for an Orthodox service, be married by a Reform or Conservative rabbi or get married in a civil ceremony in another country.

Canceling the wedding, set for this Thursday, was out of the question. "We have guests coming from England, from the United States, from India," she says. "It was impossible to postpone it."

Why did Rabbi Solomon make the decision to refuse to marry those of Indian descent? He has refused to comment publicly throughout the affair, and would not answer *The Jerusalem Post's* requests for a response. He reportedly told one of the Tsriker sisters that it was because of the case of one person of Indian descent who came to register. There were doubts about the Jewishness of that individual's mother. In the rabbi's opinion, this threw the Jewishness of the entire community into question. It was then that he declared that neither he nor his subordinates in the Petah Tikva rabbinate would deal with those of Indian descent.

In the 1950s and 1960s there was considerable controversy in rabbinic circles over the

Jewishness of Indian Jews when they first immigrated to Israel. Their history was undisputed – historic synagogues stand in India – but the expertise of their rabbis in family matters was questioned, and some rabbis demanded that they undergo conversions. After a series of protests and sit-down strikes, former Sephardic chief rabbi Ovadia Yosef investigated the question and issued what has been considered a definitive interpretation of Jewish law which upholds the legitimacy of Indian Jewry.

The Petah Tikva decision shocked and saddened members of the B'nai Israel community in general, and some more than the parents of the young people who were not able to register.

"In 1969 I left India, where I and my wife had excellent jobs and a promising future, so that my children could grow up in Israel, have a Jewish education and a Jewish life," says Gedalia Solomon, Orly's father. "We came here for their sake. I served in the army, did my reserve service, and built my life. And now, to have to watch my daughter go through this breaks my heart and has made me sick. How dare our Jewishness be questioned by some fanatic? My great-grandfather was a rabbi in Poona, a city near Bombay."

"I understand the rabbi's concern if he found one Indian Jew who raised questions, but that is not a reason to blacken an entire community." Instead of preparing for the wedding, he said that his home had been turned into "a battlefield" over the past week, and that members of his family have been busy with phone calls and faxes to government offices, rabbis, and the media. Prina Tsriker, 46, the mother of



Orly Solomon and her fiance, Ra'anana Weld. 'I never imagined in my wildest dreams I would have to fight for my wedding,' says Solomon.

Simha, who is set to marry on December 2, said she was hurt and insulted at what had happened to

her daughter: "It is not right, and it is not fair," she said. "We have three sons who were married without any problems or questions. How dare they question our Jewishness?"

Rabbi David Raz of Beersheba, a respected rabbi from the Indian community, played a key role in mediating Orly Solomon's case, and, in the end, succeeded in getting her registered to marry under Petah Tikva auspices.

Raz says that he has received an assurance from Sephardic Chief Rabbi Bakshi-Doroo and Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi Yisrael Lau, that the rabbinate in Petah Tikva and Rabbi Solomon have been instructed to process the applications of Indian immigrants in matters of marriage. "If he refuses to follow the policies of the Chief Rabbinate, Rabbi Solomon must either tender his resignation or be moved to another position," Raz says.

Raz says that although it has been many years since the issue was a source of public controversy, he was not entirely surprised that it had surfaced again.

"We have more tools to fight now. Back then we were newcomers, now we have lawyers, judges, army officers in our community."

There are also young political activists in the Indian community. One is David Naveh, a member of The Third Way party, who transformed his Tel Aviv home into a coordinating center for the Petah Tikva struggle.

Naveh sees the case as a turning point in consciousness-raising for Indian Jews. "The generation that came to Israel from India were a patient, gentle, polite, agreeable

people who tried to get along and did not like to be involved in controversy. We, the younger generation of sabras, are not afraid of confronting the establishment and fighting for what is right."

"I served in the army, did my reserve service and built my life. And now, to have to watch my daughter go through this breaks my heart and makes me sick. How dare our Jewishness be questioned by some fanatic? My great-grandfather was a rabbi in India"

—Gedalia Solomon

Originally, he said, the leaders of the Indian community in Petah Tikva had looked for ways to get around the problem, such as regis-

tering the marriage in neighboring Rosh Ha'ayin, as the Tsriker cousins chose to do.

"I asked them: 'Have you been paying taxes in Petah Tikva for years?'" said Naveh. "Isn't that where you live? You shouldn't go to Rosh Ha'ayin, Tel Aviv or Jerusalem. The next thing you know they are going to tell us to go back to India to get married. We serve in this country's army and we have rights."

Neither Naveh nor Orly Solomon herself is completely satisfied by the resolution to the problem. Although Orly and others of Indian descent will be permitted to register in Petah Tikva, their marriage certificates will be signed by a chief rabbi of another city, most likely Rosh Ha'ayin.

"I think it is awful and leaves a bad taste in my mouth. It is obvious that Rabbi Solomon still believes that Indian Jews are not Jewish. This man holds a public position, and he is blatantly prejudiced," Solomon says. "Something must be done."

She says that after her wedding, she wants to be involved in efforts that Naveh and others are organizing to demand an apology from Rabbi Solomon and press him to either agree to sign the marriage certificates of Indian Jews or resign.

"We are even considering suing him for insulting our entire community," she said. Naveh adds that Indian Jews are determined to "fight for our rights in every non-violent, legal means that we can find. We are going to resolve this issue and fight any prejudice that still exists against us, not only in Petah Tikva, but in the whole country."

The Dahanuq airport will become a deplorable precedent, set as a model for future border crossing



The Solomon family in Poona, India, circa 1938. Orly's father, Gedalia, sits at the far left, on the floor. His great-grandfather, Shlomo Rahamin Penker (center) was the rabbi of Poona. (Reproduction by Jonathan Bloom)

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Whose life is it, anyway?

My husband glanced over my shoulder as I was poring over a newspaper story spelling out the details of Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai's romance with and marriage to Kochi Shimshi — one of those thoroughly gossipy articles that drives us to condemn how the press invades the private life of a public figure.

He lauds the fact that his wife is studying social work and that her skills should be perfected by the time she has to push his wheelchair. So, fine, guys, I'll let you off the hook. At least you are not Woody Allen, and these women are not the adopted teenage daughters of your ex-girlfriend.

Home Front



Allison Kaplan Sommer

After we'd devoured every word, my husband asked, "Is this supposed to bother me?" What he meant was, is a '90s-style sensitive, politically correct guy supposed to be appalled by a love match that has a 29-year age gap? Mordechai is 54. Shimshi, who managed his office before leaving to study law, is 25 years old. Shimshi's mother is eight years younger than her new son-in-law. Technically, Shimshi is the step-mother of Mordechai's children, who are older than she is.

Sure, it's a little disappointing that women of your own age, stature, and level of accomplishment do not appeal to you, but we all must find our own happiness. Nobody is forcing these young women to marry you — we're not talking about primitive cultures where 12-year-olds are being sold off to men in their 30s and 40s. And, at least, instead of dating a parade of young chicks, you have made it to the point where you are interested in committing to one young chick. And these are adult women — they can do math and they understand physiology and hopefully thought through their decision to marry someone so much older than themselves.

Mordechai was the second highly publicized May-December match of the past few months. We gossip-mongers had barely recovered from tales about ratings-king Dudo Topaz, 51, standing atop Masada and plighting his troth to Roni Hen, 27, a student of social work and former freelance journalist.

In fact, women friends of mine who are just a few years older than their husbands often face nasty comments and relentless monitoring of their biological clock by

At least Topaz has the good humor to joke about it. 'Yeah, I was thinking we should double-date. Yitzhak and I can talk and our wives can play with Barbies.'

As a sympathetic friend of a number of attractive, intelligent, warm single women in their 30s and 40s who haven't yet found Mr. Right, I'd like to be able to coo and criticize these matches. But can one really argue with love? And even if these couples involve a deal that is more than pure love — if they trade youth and beauty for money, power, and influence — can anyone claim that more self-interested exchanges have not been made in the name of matrimony? After all, didn't Knesset member Aryeh Deri basically admit in open court that he married his wife for her dowry? In the case of both Duda and Itzik (like many Israeli men, their childhood nicknames have followed them into middle age), the men in question have been long divorced. They did not blatantly trade in their wives for newer models. At least Topaz has the good humor to joke about it. "Yeah, I was thinking we should double-date," he said. "Yitzhak and I can talk and our wives can

friends, family and casual acquaintances. And that goes double for public figures: ex-model Heli Goldenberg was grilled endlessly by the press regarding the fact that her husband, Avri Gilad, was in his mid-thirties and she was already 40 when they got married. One of the most romantic stories I have ever heard was the case of dear friends of mine, Debra and Yossi, who met when he was 28 and she was 38. Heavy pressure was put on Yossi to forget about this woman. After all, she was far too old for him, married family and friends. As months went by, he tried to do as he was told and dated other women. "But," Yossi said, "I realized after a while that I was just looking for a younger version of Debra. That was silly, so I decided to go for the real thing. What is important is being happy. Who cares what anyone else thinks? Age, after all, is only a number." I'm sure that newlyweds Mordechai and Topaz heartily agree.



Sisters in crime: Special agent Jim Arey gives a group of mystery writers instructions on identifying explosives so they can write about bombings more realistically. (AP)

Murder, she wrote

By TARA MEYER

In a church meeting room in Atlanta, special agent Jim Arey lays out an arsenal of explosives to the glee of a group of sinister sisters.

The women take copious notes as he picks up a sheet of explosive as thin as an envelope to demonstrate the finer points of letter bombs. Earlier, over beer and fajitas, the group had chatted about the joy of the kill.

"Loved your gunshot wounds," writer Kathy Hogan Trocheck told colleague Teri Holbrook, referring to an especially gruesome end to a character in her book "The Grass Widow." These mystery writers are determined to get the gory details of death right. Experts at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms are among their best sources.

"We are writing fiction, but we are trying to create a world that's believable," Ms. Trocheck says. "I want my fiction to seem real." They belong to an international network of mystery writers called Sisters in Crime, founded about a decade ago. Sisters' 42 chapters — including two in Canada and one in Germany — promote women in a mystery field dominated by men. Its 3,200 members have included, at one time or another, such best-selling authors as Sara Paretsky and Mary Higgins Clark.

For this bunch, it's also become a monthly caucus on how to get away with murder.

These sleuths are serious. Their sign-in sheet reads "Sign In or Die!" Their newsletter is known as the "Rap Sheet." But in the quest for accuracy, their intentions are sometimes misunderstood.

One night over dinner, they were consulting each other on poison. Their waitress never returned. A pharmacist was shocked when Laurien Berenson, who specializes in mayhem on the dog show circuit, asked her to explain how to use arsenic. The druggist immediately called Ms. Berenson's husband. "He said, 'That's OK. She does it all the time,'" Ms. Berenson said.

Accuracy is worth the trouble because readers are quick to point out mistakes. "Members of the National Rifle Association have written me several times because they have been angry that I said a gun fired 10 rounds instead of eight," Ms. Paretsky said. Her female sleuth V.I. Warshawski has graced the pages of eight books and landed her own movie.

"This one man wrote me a 10-page letter about every mistake I had made in all my books and said I had obviously a Communist who wanted to take guns out of Americans' hands," she said. "Tonight, their consultant is Arey, a bomb expert with the ATF for 31 years."

"Sure, I was reluctant to come here," Arey says. "But I have no reason to think they want to learn about bombs for any other reason than to put some realism into

their books." So he explains the finer points of bombs, from a fuse that can burn a 76-mile trail from Atlanta to Macon in 20 seconds, to the ammonium nitrate package that looks like a bag of manure.

Later, the women and a few men slip on latex gloves and sift through some of Arey's samples, looking for the switch, battery and blasting caps.

Scott Schmid, a cellular immunologist with the CDC, once told the group how to grow the toxin that causes botulism and inject it into a victim's insulin supply for a swift kill.

"I was very careful to talk about things in ways that nobody would really be able to use it, but it could make a good plot," Schmid said. "I certainly didn't give them a cookbook." They've held guns in their hands, felt the nose of a tracking dog and the tactics of a medical examiner. For one lecture, a bone specialist brought along a human skeleton. "There's a mutual trust," says Annette Meyers, national president of Sisters in Crime. "They show us a lot of things, and they ask us please not to talk to the public about it." Wait a minute. Won't the public just read about it?

"If people read it and they are already disturbed, maybe that gives them ideas," says Mrs. Meyers, who plans a poisonous azalea as the weapon in one murder plot. "I think most of the time nobody does it." (AP)

GRAPEVINE BY GREER LAY CASHMAN

A view from above



Is the president aspiring for greater heights? (Isaac Herzog)

At the gala opening of the Hebrew University's international \$600 million fundraising campaign, President Ezer Weizman brought up the issue of real estate. While he didn't want to create any new political controversy, he stressed, he would like to move the official residence of the president to Mount Scopus, where he could give visitors a panoramic view of the city.

Maatchan Land, wife of South African ambassador Frank Land. Thus the only diplomatic wives at the WIZO benefit at the Tel Aviv Hilton were Nagwa Bassiouny, wife of the Egyptian ambassador, and Catherine Manning, wife of the British ambassador.

Bassiouny, an expert on Middle East Mean Time, is well aware that hardly anything in Israel starts at the hour stated on the invitation, so as soon as the show was over, she headed for the birthday party at the Beit Or American restaurant in Ramat Gan, where the festivities were still in full swing. Other guests at the birthday brunch included Dahlia Kahalani, wife of the minister of internal security; Naomi Bentsur, wife of the director general of the Foreign Ministry; Gloria Olsenska, wife of the dean of the diplomatic corps; and Philippines Ambassador Rosalinda de Perio Santos.

THE INFANT son of Irit and Laurence Goldman of Modi'in, Maor Chaim Goldman, was inducted into the faith last week. Named after his great-grandfather Chaim Goldman, who had come from Bialystok to Liverpool and founded the Allerton Hebrew Congregation, little Maor Chaim wore the same prayer shawl that had been worn 38 years earlier by his father when he was circumcised at the Women's Hospital in Liverpool. The baby's paternal grandparents, Shlomo and June Goldman of Liverpool, and his uncle Philip Goldman of Sheffield flew in for the occasion.

CURRENTLY in Israel to celebrate the 20th anniversary of ISEF, the

RECIPIENT of the B'nai Brith International Humanitarian Award, Raya Jaglom, revealed that throughout her 57 years of marriage, her husband, Josef, had never attended any of the ceremonies at which she was honored. Last Thursday night was the exception. The occasion coincided with the 20th birthday of the Jagloms' granddaughter, Dafna Jaglom, in whose name they presented six \$1,000 scholarships at the WIZO school in Afula. Detailing Raya Jaglom's considerable achievements in the fields of Zionist endeavor, culture, edu-



Like father like son? Kirk and Michael Douglas (Photos: UPPA)

cation and social welfare, BB International president Tommy Baer commented: "I thought I had an extensive CV, but it pales in comparison."

Looking at the celebrity-studded tables at the ceremonial dinner at the Carlton Hotel, Tel Aviv Mayor Ronni Milo observed that only Raya Jaglom could bring so many dignitaries together. "We have past and present, and I hope that some of us represent the future," said Milo, addressing Shlomo Lahat as the mayor of Tel Aviv and Simcha Dinitz as the chairman of the Jewish Agency. The defence to Lahat is part of Milo's regular routine, but in following through with Dinitz, Milo cited the custom in the US where "once you have a title, no one can take it away from you."

International Sephardic Education Foundation of which she is the founder and world president, Nina Avidar, Weiner, who can truly describe herself as a citizen of the world. Born in Egypt to a Russian father and a third-generation Israeli mother of Sephardi background, Weiner, who resides in New York, studied psychology in Geneva, completed her master's degree in vocational counseling at Columbia University, and then began a career in Israel. She founded ISEF with the encouragement of banker Edmond Safra and over the years has distributed scholarships to some 3,500 students. She is married to Walter Weiner, chairman and CEO of the Republic National Bank of New York.

Jaglom is due to receive further honors later this month, from the Tel Aviv Museum of Art for which she has raised a great deal of money, in addition to cajoling gifts, loans and bequests from private collections. Will her husband, who is based in Geneva, be there? We'll have to wait and see.

ROUNDLY praised for decades of devoted work on behalf of the Hebrew University, Sam Rothberg, honorary chairman of the HU Board of Governors, expressed appreciation for the nice things said about him. "I hope no one takes any notice of them because I don't," he declared.

FRIDAY morning fashion shows, which are so popular in Tel Aviv, usually have a large representation of female diplomats and wives of members of the diplomatic corps. The Gideon and Karen Osherson show on behalf of WIZO Tel Aviv's projects for economically and emotionally deprived youth was an exception. The reason: It clashed with the birthday party organized by socialite Naomi Cherpak on behalf of enormously popular

THEY look like two peas in a pod and chose the same profession but, unlike his father Kirk Douglas, Michael Douglas is not halachically Jewish. While not ashamed of his Jewish roots, Michael simply doesn't have a head for religion just now, he doesn't discount the possibility that he may one day make the commitment. The question is whether his eventual conversion will be Orthodox, Conservative or Reform.

Single-minded about dating

Dear Ruthie, I am 36 and still single. All my friends have been married so long that many of them are already getting divorced. I have always had trouble meeting men. I am uncomfortable at parties, afraid to go on blind dates, and never seem to get along romantically with any of the men I work with. In the past, whenever I did meet someone, the relationship was short-lived, usually as a result of the man being afraid to commit or of just not being seriously interested in me.

telling me I have to be more outgoing and take more risks, but that is not in my nature. Is there hope for me, and if so, where does it lie? Single in a Slump Somewhere in Israel Dear I in a Slump, Your friends are right in suggesting that you are participating in your predicament. But they are wrong in assuming that all you need to do is undergo a "simple" metamorphosis by following their example.

It is not surprising that these two women, who have already been married and divorced, are getting offers from men. The fact that each married long ago indicates that "coupledom" for them was as much an assumption about how their

lives were to be shaped as it must have been a goal. Though you believe that you, too, share this goal by consciously wanting to have a family, something else must be at work unconsciously that has prevented you from pursuing it. Rather than making an internal assumption about yourself as someone who would be married, and rather than setting this as an internal aim, your vision of yourself was more likely one of singlehood.

Now that two of my friends are recently divorced, I am even more in despair about my situation because they keep getting offers from men to go out — even now — while I still remain the perpetual wallflower. I would very much like to have a family, but I don't see how that will ever be possible if I cannot even get a date. My friends keep

What makes your situation so complicated is the battle between your unconscious and your conscious selves, with the former erecting hurdles along the latter's path. Since the unconscious is always a much

more powerful player in such contests, the intellectual desires harbored tend to get tripped up by the gut ones at every step of the way. Learning how to jump over our own hurdles in the worst case, and learning how to chop them down altogether in the best, is an arduous emotional task — often impossible to tackle without professional help. The good news is that it can be done. Where there's a way, there's a will which can be altered. So, while your friends are out dating, you might invest your energy in undergoing a little internal metamorphosing. It will be a lot more valuable to you in the long run than even the best matchmaking service.

Letters should be addressed to: 'Dear Ruthie,' POB 81, 91000 Jerusalem. For E-mail: editors@jpost.co.il



Ruthie Blum

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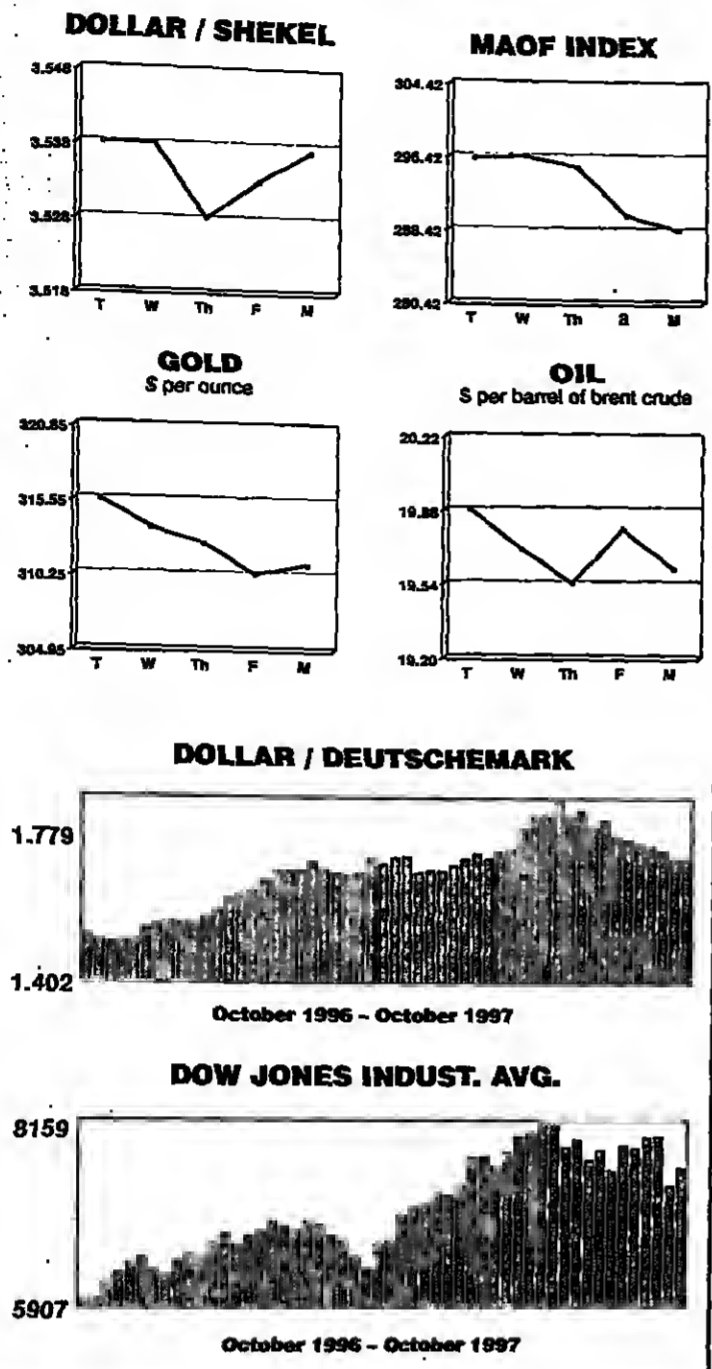
Vertical text on the right edge of the page, including 'Tuesday, November 11, 1997', 'MAR', 'DOLLAR', 'SMEREL', 'GOLD', 'DOLLAR', 'JOHN JONES', 'Mexico approves', 'Years to start organizing', 'Baron's net income scary', 'Tourism Ministry woos US with', 'Cable TV threatens petition to H'.

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Tuesday, November 11, 1997

MARKETS

in brief



Mexico approves Shiloov's HIV device
Shiloov Medical Technologies yesterday said that Mexico's Ministry of Health has approved the use of the company's Shiloov Tube for the detection of HIV, the virus that causes AIDS. Shiloov said it will begin marketing the tube to blood banks, hospitals, clinics and diagnostic laboratories within the next few months. The tube is designed to detect HIV more quickly and accurately than current methods. An estimated 10 million blood and plasma samples are tested for HIV annually in Mexico and Latin America. The tube is under review in Brazil, Israel, South Africa and Kenya. The company will begin US clinical trials in the beginning of 1998. *Jennifer Friedlin*

Industrial exports up 10% this year
Industrial exports will increase by 10% in 1997 to \$16 billion, the Export Institute announced yesterday. One-third of all exports will come from the high-tech sector. The institute attributed the increase to Israeli companies' success in developing cutting edge products over the past few years. *Jennifer Friedlin*

Teams to start organizing national railway
Ya'acov Katz, director-general of the National Infrastructure Ministry, has on Minister Ariel Sharon's instructions appointed teams to look into the activities and tasks required for the establishment of a national railway company. The three team heads are David Gershonovitz (railway assets, excluding real estate), Ahaz Ben-Ari (real estate in railway use) and Yoel Naveh (subsidies for the railways). The establishment of a railway company has been held up for some time because of objections from the Treasury. However, because of organizational and legal activities necessary for the establishment of the company, Sharon has decided it should be put into effect immediately so it can begin working once Knesset approval is received. *Sybil Ehrlich*

Elron's net income soars
Elron Electronic Industries reported yesterday that net income in the third quarter rose to \$13.3 million from \$2.5m. in the same period last year. The company wrote a \$7.4m. capital gain from the successful public offering of Elbit Systems in the US. In the nine months ending on September 30, 1997, net income rose to \$22.5m., against \$7.5m. in the same period last year. In a statement, Elron's chairman and chief executive officer, Uzia Galil, said "we are very pleased to recognize the success of the Elbit demerger... which has not only helped to focus the management on each of its own market but has also created considerable value both for the Elbit and Elron shareholders." A year ago Elron's main holding, Elbit, was split into three companies - Elbit Medical Imaging, which focuses on health care; Elbit Systems, which concentrates on defense; and Elbit, which focuses on commercial products. *Dan Gerstenfeld*

Tourism Ministry woos US with cheap deal
Hundreds of Americans are taking advantage of a special deal to travel here this winter, the Tourism Ministry said this week. According to the ministry, the deals include a fly and drive package for \$999 and a touring package for \$1,399. Information about the deals was sent in a direct mailing to 450,000 households identified as potential clients, including Jewish families of average or above-average income who had not visited Israel or had not visited in recent years. *Haim Shapiro*

Cable TV threatens petition to High Court
Cable TV companies are demanding that the government investigate the legality of using the Budget Law to change the Bezeq Law in the field of direct broadcasting by satellite of TV programming. In a letter sent to Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman, Communications Minister Limor Livnat and Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein, the five regional cable companies said it was a warning before they filed a petition to the High Court of Justice against including the Bezeq Law amendment in the Budget Law, as part of the Arrangements Law being pushed by the Treasury. The companies, which stand to lose their exclusivity if customers could get satellite TV broadcasts without a cable subscription, said proper administration is being violated by such legislation. *Judy Siegel*

Sharansky weighs court action against Bezeq

By DAVID HARRIS and news agencies
Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky yesterday instructed his staff to investigate the possibility of indicting Bezeq International for its alleged violation of the Consumer Protection Law. On Sunday, the Antitrust Authority formally accused senior Bezeq International staff of employing unfair business practices designed to give the company an advantage ahead of the introduction

of competition in the overseas telephone-call market. "On the basis of the evidence... it would appear there is significant fear that Bezeq International and its management violated the Consumer Protection Law," read a statement from the Industry and Trade Ministry. The section of the law allegedly breached by the company's managers, entitled Deception and Exploitation of Distress, prohibits anyone selling or providing a service from doing any act that causes material deception from the consumers' point of view, including the subjects of prices, among them advertised prices. Another section provides that in case of deception in advertising, anyone on whose behalf the advertisement was made, and the person who submitted the material for publication and thereby caused it to be published, shall be deemed to be in breach of the law. This is in addition to the distributor, or whoever actually decided to place the advertisement, if the advertisement was misleading on the face of it, or if they knew it to be misleading.

Any legal action on this basis would be initially dealt with by the magistrates court, with an appeal to the district court. MKs were among those who yesterday attacked the company in light of the allegations. Emanuel Zissman (The Third Way) wrote to Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani demanding a police investigation against senior company executives, including Chairman Moshe Haba and Director-General Ori Yogeve, arguing it is a criminal offense for a monopoly to use its power for negative purposes. Zissman's proposal will also be discussed by the Knesset plenum next week. Labor faction chairman Ra'anah Cohen, meanwhile, requested the issue be brought before the Knesset State Comptroller's committee. Cohen described Bezeq International as a national disgrace. Responding to the various charges made over the last two days Yogeve told the *Jerusalem Post* the claims are without foundation, but it is perfectly legitimate for agencies to investigate the issue.

MCI accepts WorldCom bid

By COLLEEN McELROY
JACKSON, Mississippi - MCI Communications Corp. yesterday accepted WorldCom Inc.'s increased offer of \$51 a share in stock, or \$41.8 billion including assumed debt, which topped bids by GTE Corp. and British Telecommunications Plc for the No. 2 U.S. long-distance company. WorldCom's offer - the largest ever in the US - is 23 percent higher than its original bid of \$41.50 a share made on October 1. It also beats a rival \$40-a-share all-cash bid from GTE and \$33.63 a share in stock and cash from British Telecom.



A combined MCI and WorldCom would be a formidable competitor to AT&T Corp. with a quarter of the US long-distance business and operations in 102 US local phone markets - giving the new company much-needed networks to compete against the Baby Bells. The agreement also wipes out British Telecom's plan to use MCI to gain a foothold in the US telecommunications market. "This saves MCI from struggling with its local phone initiatives," said Scott Wright, an analyst at Argus Research. "This only increases the pressure on Mike Armstrong (AT&T CEO) to get his hands around AT&T."

British Telecom won't have a stake in the combined MCI WorldCom. Instead, it will get \$51-a-share in cash for its 20% stake. MCI shares rose 5 1/8 to 42 in early trading of 6.94 million, making them the most active in US markets. WorldCom shares fell 7/8 to 32 1/4 and were the second-most active. Shares of GTE rose 2 3/8 to 46. GTE said it is reviewing the situation and has no immediate comment. British Telecom's American depositary receipts climbed 2 1/2 to 79 1/2.

MCI Chairman Bert Roberts will be chairman of the combined company, which will be called MCI WorldCom. WorldCom Chairman and Chief Executive Bernard Ebbers will be CEO. "We have aligned ourselves with a management team and employees who share our entrepreneurial spirit and continue to pioneer competition in our industry," Ebbers said. "The expertise of Mr. Roberts and his colleagues will be invaluable." Other top MCI managers also will join MCI WorldCom. (Bloomberg)

Report proposes 10 projects for regional tourism

By DAVID HARRIS
Ireland-based consultant Jennings O'Donovan recommends 10 major projects for promoting international tourism and technical advances in the Southeast Mediterranean (SEMED), in its interim report, published at the weekend by Israel's Foreign Ministry. The coastline between Port Said and Ashkelon, including Gaza, is one of several areas surrounding Israel pinpointed for regional cooperation projects. The report recommends a total investment of \$16.748 million for the schemes:

- Technical and vocational training for Gaza (\$580,000 to be funded by Israel, Egypt and the PA)
- Rehabilitation of training centers in Gaza and Rafah (\$3.4m. - donor countries and PA)
- Establishing a trainer development program in Gaza (\$600,000 - Israel, Egypt, PA and European Union)
- Development of agricultural laboratories at Beit Lahia (\$1.41m. - Israel, Egypt, PA and Europe/US)
- Safe use of treated effluence and sewage sludge research (\$310,000 - Israel, Egypt and PA)
- Crop intensification research (\$512,000 - Israel, Egypt and PA)
- Agricultural marketing research (\$200,000 - PA)
- Dairy farm and processing unit (\$9m. - private sector)
- Institutional strengthening and training in tourism (\$450,000 - Israel, Egypt and PA)
- Tourism planning studies (\$285,000 - no sources cited).

These projects were chosen out of a list of 42, according to the Foreign Ministry, because they promote regional cooperation, require relatively small investment, can be implemented in the short term, can provide visible results, are environmentally friendly and can incorporate the private sector. Details of this and other regional projects were published ahead of next week's Middle East-North Africa economic conference in the Qatari capital Doha.

BancAmerica to expand here

By JENNIFER FRIEDLIN
BancAmerica Robertson Stephens (BARS) intends to expand its local operation by "applying more resources, hiring more people and expanding its range of services," Michael McCaffery, CEO of the company's investment banking division, said yesterday. McCaffery is currently here for the third annual Growth & Technology Conference sponsored by BARS and its local affiliate, Evergreen Capital Markets. BARS's plans to increase its presence in the local market reflect the more aggressive international approach the company has adopted since BancAmerica, the US's third largest financial institution, took over the San Francisco-based investment banking and investment management firm in October. "You will see more activity from us worldwide," McCaffery said. While the company is embarking on a global expansion project, McCaffery said that BARS, which has \$68 billion in assets, will pay special attention to

Israel because of its strong technology and biotechnology sectors. "We believed this was a market that would play to our strengths [and our experience], has confirmed our opinion," said McCaffery, adding that the company has and will continue to also invest in Israel's non-technology markets. So far this year, Robertson Stephens has done about \$550 million worth of business here. Last year the local market generated \$250m. in business for the company. In 1995, Robertson Stephens teamed up with Tel Aviv's Evergreen Capital Markets. Together the companies manage the Periscope venture capital fund, a \$38m. fund launched this summer. Evergreen has another five funds, including IJT Technologies - a \$28m. fund established with Japanese and Taiwanese partners. Most recently, Robertson Stephens underwrote ZAG Industries and Galleq Technology's initial public offerings on the Nasdaq Stock Exchange. The companies raised \$27m. and \$51m. respectively.

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The tender documents may be obtained Sunday - Thursday, at the Market Research and Tenders Department, 11 Sdejot Pal-Yam, Haifa, between 9 a.m. and 12 noon, on submission of a receipt demonstrating payment (non-refundable) for the documents into the Corporation's account at the Postal Bank. Payment slips for making such payments are obtainable at the above address by calling 04-861-5455/4. Before purchasing the tender documents, they may be perused, Sunday - Thursday, 9 a.m. - 12 noon, at the above offices or at the Sales Department, 90 Rehov Ygal Alon, Tel Aviv, Ashdod Building, entrance C, 1st floor, Tel. 03-565-4679, 03-565-4641. Bids should be submitted in a sealed envelope and be placed in Tender Box No. 1 in the Pal-Yam Building, Haifa (address as above) by the last date for submitting bids, as stated above. No undertaking is given to accept the lowest or any bid.

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Going for brokers

Following the Dow's recent plunge, investors are expected to sue the brokers who fueled the 1990s runaway bull market

By SUSAN ANTILLA

NEW YORK - The Dow Jones' little 554-plunge last month that we're not calling a crash may not mean the end of the roaring 1990s as we know them.

But it probably is the end of Easy Street for some stockbrokers who were less than honest with their customers. Because even the customer who thinks circuit breakers have something to do with the electrical system has the brains to know this: one-day's 7.2 percent decline is sufficient reason to dust off the unread account statements. Once he does, he may find everything from unauthorized trades to surprise margin loans to buy the unwanted shares.

Runaway bull markets like the one that's graced most of the 1990s mask all sorts of incompetence and mischief by stock brokers, say lawyers who represent both investors and the firms they sue. Get a day like Oct. 27, though, and the investor who was asleep at the switch can suddenly come alive.

"Now people will start paying more attention," says Jonathan Kord Lagemann, a New York lawyer who helps investors sue their brokers.

Adds Linda Fienberg, executive vice president of adjudication at the National Association of Securities Dealers Regulation Inc.: "I do think the increased volatility we've seen over the last month or so will result in an increase in claims."

How big an increase? Morgan Bentley, an investors' attorney who was in-house counsel at now-defunct Thomson McKinnon Securities when the stock market crashed in 1987, says his former employer's arbitration docket doubled after the Dow's famous 508-point one-day rout.

First, Thomson itself was "quick to go out and make claims against customers" who owed money in their margin accounts, suing them within two weeks of the crash, Bentley says. Customers' complaints against the firm took



slightly longer, beginning to trickle in a month or so later, he adds.

Crash and correction-related complaints can stretch out over a long period of time, though. The plunge of late October may have planted the seeds of cases that won't be seen for years, says Tom Grady, a Naples, Florida, plaintiffs' lawyer.

"Some people in the 1987 crash had brokers who kept saying 'We will work this out. It's a temporary thing,'" Grady explains. "There are investors who go on for years believing that," before concluding their broker has sold them a bill of goods, and suing.

That's the sort of tale lots of investors heard after the 1987 crash, when they inquired about

their investments in limited partnership investments, says John Lawrence Allen, a Carlsbad, Calif., plaintiffs' lawyer. "Their partnerships might already have been down 30 percent going into the crash," he says, explaining that these victims of fraudulent sales practices would have been in deep water, market fall or not.

"But they didn't look at their statements until after."

Having already hoodwinked investors into investments from real-estate partnerships to micro-cap stocks that were in many cases inappropriate, why not further fool them into believing that they would make up their losses, as stocks recovered, Allen says.

Allan Fedor, a Largo, Florida,

investors' lawyer, says he had a 1987 crash case in which the customer had no idea that one of his three accounts had been put on margin - borrowed money on which he was leveraging new investments and paying interest. (The cautious customer had set up three accounts in order to be clear which investment strategy was to be used with which chunk of money.)

"The broker borrowed against the guy's Treasuries account and used the money to buy stocks in the growth stock account," says Fedor. "Some of these people get whacked because they may see something about margin of interest in their monthly statement, but they're clueless as to what it

means."

Lawyers say that even before the recent volatility, they already were busy filing old-fashioned churning cases against brokers alleging they were executing rapid trades simply to drum up commissions. And those are likely to multiply now that investors have reason to be more vigilant.

"Customers are getting statements that say they're up 12 to 15%, which historically is a good return, but the market in the same period was up 35%," says Grady. The difference between the customer's gains and that of the market average amounts to trading costs that line the broker's pocket, Grady adds. "In markets like this, it's covered up."

Another trick that will increasingly come to investors' attention as they more carefully scrutinize account statements, the so-called "safe" investment in mutual funds which was meant as a substitute for a certificate of deposit.

Fedor had a case where a 91-year-old client was persuaded to abandon her CDs for funds, thinking she could get the same income with the same safety. She found out the hard way that the monthly checks weren't just income: she'd eaten into her principal at an alarming rate.

Lagemann says to also expect lots more accusations of unauthorized trades - something brokers get away with when times are good and they can persuade cus-

tomers to stick with a "mistake" because it's made them money.

"In good markets, brokers talk you into it, saying you are up anyway so do me a favor and keep the stock."

Unauthorized trade cases can get tricky, says Howard Elisofon, a New York lawyer who represents brokers and brokerage firms. The most common unauthorized trade complaint is the one where a customer gives "limited discretion" to a broker. Such murky permission leads to difficult squabbles in which the investor might not deny that he expressed interest in a stock, but is adamant that he wanted to buy 5,000 shares - not 50,000.

Old-fashioned unauthorized trade complaints are no doubt already being drafted, says Bentley, but you can also expect to see new problems with new players.

"There are a lot of new brokers out there," he says, predicting two new brands of cases against "so-called discount brokers who are now giving a little advice," and stockbrokers who sell their wares at banks, where customers may not have been clear that FDIC insurance in operation elsewhere in the building did not apply to their mutual funds. Brokers have lots of incentive to pull a few fast ones, says Lagemann, particularly in view of the fancy lifestyles that have come with 1990s bidding wars for big producers.

Lagemann recently negotiated a new job for a broker who, as part of his package, got an upfront loan equal to 60% of his last year's compensation - "an amount of money I'd like to earn in the next three years," as Lagemann puts it. Brokerage firms don't make those kinds of loans unless they expect "the production to back it up," says Lagemann. The lawyer emphasizes, of course, that his broker/client is an honest fellow.

But, in a world where lots of big gun brokers are working off the large loans used to woo them, "the incentive to churn is strong," Lagemann adds. (Bloomberg)

'The young person's VW'

Seat dealers have benefitted from recent marketing efforts, and the popularly priced Ibiza automatic should send sales soaring even further

Motoring



By Joel Gordin

Local sales of the Spanish-made marque Seat increased during the summer by 150 percent, mainly as a result of marketing moves initiated by the dealer, Champion Motors. Seat is owned by Germany's Volkswagen conglomerate, thus Champion is also the local agent for Volkswagen and Audi. In the past, Seat was overshadowed by Volkswagen in Champion's showrooms, and the disappointing sales figures of 100 units a month reflected this secondary status.

However, this summer, Champion made a bold decision to separate Seat and Volkswagen and give Seat a new, trendy image. The idea was to present the Seat as a "young person's Volkswagen" rather than a "the poor person's Volkswagen." The new approach seems to be working: The Seat showrooms are now selling around 260 units a month.

The Seat salespeople have been given another break to help push their products. The 1998 model of the small family car, the Ibiza, is now available with an automatic shift - at a popular price.

The initial appearance of the 1998 Ibiza probably won't take your breath away. It looks like the run-of-the-mill 1990s compact hatchback and will melt into the crowd on our roads. The inside is dominated by the smart, black plastic dashboard topped off by the red-tinted clocks and gauges.

The Ibiza does not pretend to be a luxury car and the spartan accessory list should not come as a surprise. The control buttons of the front power windows are situated in a somewhat uncomfortable position and the side mirrors must be adjusted manually (albeit from a lever on the inside). There's central door locking, power steering and an air conditioner, but not much else in the way of luxury toys.

The safety accessory list includes two front airbags as standard equipment but the passenger-side airbag is at the expense of a glove compartment. There's nowhere else - save the pockets in the inside of the doors - to stuff small parcels. The fair-sized trunk would hold 270 liters more if the back seats could be folded forward. I found the seats to be firm and comfortable. Four adults don't need to squeeze tight to sit in the vehicle.

The engine and the performance of the automatic shift are surprisingly impressive. The engine is flexible and gutsy. The shift is of the "smart" type which adapts itself to the driver. If its computer senses a fast or aggressive driver, it changes the gears accordingly, allowing the rev. counter to hover at around 6,000. This gives a much better sporting performance than one would expect from a

small car with automatic shift that only packs an initial punch of 75 horsepower.

For those who prefer more sedate driving, the Ibiza reaches 90 km/h in a respectable, but not overpowering, 15 seconds and can cruise at that speed in 3,000 revs. It's not the quietest drive, but its pleasant roar rather than a whine or a scream.

I had no problems with the road performance except for a spongy reaction from the brakes that may have been a defect only in the particular test car that I drove.

The Ibiza cannot claim to be the cheapest automatic shift on our market - the Daihatsu Charade, for example, costs just over NIS 68,000.

However, what will interest many buyers is how the Ibiza compares with its sister from Volkswagen, the Polo, which is available with automatic shift at a cost of around NIS 77,000. To put

it another way: Is it worth paying an extra NIS 7,000 to buy the Polo instead of the Ibiza? The Polo's immediate advantage is the name tag "Volkswagen" that carries higher prestige than Seat. The Polo is also a more modern, more impressive-looking vehicle.

The Seat, nevertheless, is slightly longer than the Polo and most of this length is used to create the Ibiza's larger trunk capacity (270 liters compared to 245 in the Polo). The engines both have the same horsepower rating (75) but the Polo's engine is more flexible (13 at 2,800 r.p.m. compared to the Ibiza's 12.75 at 3,400 r.p.m.).

The Polo's engine is also quieter. However, the Ibiza has a more advanced, more driver-friendly automatic shift which gives a sportier performance. The accessory list in both automobiles is spartan, but the Polo has the advantage with an ABS braking system.

Actually the best option for buyers in this category may be the Seat Cordova, the slightly larger sister of the Ibiza. This car's 1,595cc engine has now also been fitted with automatic shift and it will sell for NIS 73,000. The first shipment of 50 automobiles has just arrived in Israel and, according to Seat spokespeople, most of it has already been sold.

SEAT IBIZA 1.6-liter automatic ENGINE: 1,598cc HORSEPOWER: 75 at 5,200 r.p.m. TORQUE: 12.75 at 3,400 r.p.m. GEARS: automatic MAXIMUM SPEED: 166 km/h. ACCELERATION: from 0-100 km/h. in 15.6 secs. GASOLINE CONSUMPTION: 8 km/l. in town; 14.5 km/l. in urban areas. PRICE: NIS 69,900



WITH JENNIFER FRIEDLIN

THE CONFERENCE CIRCUIT

By GREER FAY CASHMAN

11.11 The Israel Secretary Chamber of Commerce and Industry is hosting Frank Jehring of the Economic Development Corporation, Mecklenburg, Western-Pomerania, who will speak at the Carlton Hotel, Tel Aviv, about "Business and Investment Opportunities and Grants in the Western-Pomerania."

11.11 Not everyone who's interested in starting a business in Israel can take time out during the day to attend meetings on basic legal and tax requirements. With this in mind, the Association of Americans and Canadians in Israel (AACI) Business Forum will present its Guide to Starting a Business in Israel, at 7:30 p.m. at its Jerusalem branch, 6, Mane Street.

12.11 Representatives from two Israeli hotels that have joined the Golden Tulip chain will attend the three-day conference in Milan entitled Golden Tulip Worldwide. Duh, Oz and Ella Geten, general manager and marketing manager respectively of the Neve ilan Hotel, and Isaac Flanzer and Gadi Sason, general manager and sales manager of the Lavi Hotel, will meet their counterparts from other hotels in the chain in what will be both a familiarization and business conference.

13.11 Finance Minister and Shlomo Ploutkowski, general manager of the First International Bank, will be the guests of honor at the Annual Meeting of the Association of Public Companies at the Dan Hotel, Tel Aviv. Other participants in the conference will include chairpersons and CEOs of public companies trading in the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange as well as MK Avraham Ravitz, chairman of the Knesset Finance Committee. Included on the agenda is a discussion on how the Israel economy should adapt itself to the globalization of capital markets.

13.11 The Management Revolution, a seminar designated for general managers, human resources, marketing and data managers, will be held at the Sheraton Hotel, Tel Aviv. The seminar has been organized by Yabav, a consulting, training and organizational development enterprise.

17.11 BBDO Worldwide, in conjunction with the Israel Management Center and the Senior Marketing Executives Club, is hosting a study evening at the Tel Aviv Hilton on "Local Reflects in Global: The Media in the New Era." Joining local speakers from a variety of disciplines will be a BBDO delegation, which includes Arnie Seidisky, executive vice president of media and programming services; Paul Cushman, international media director; Shi Gray, senior vice president director of media research; and Ron Harrison, senior vice president media technology.

17.11 A study day on "The New Era in Israel's Relations in the Galilee Today" has been organized by the Interfaith Coordinating Council in Israel. Participants will leave by bus from Jerusalem and will tour various parts of the Galilee where they will dialogue with educators and spiritual leaders. The cost, including lunch, is NIS 235 per person. Further details are available by phoning (02) 672-6430.

19.11 The Fourth Israel Quality Association will take place over a two-day period at the Renaissance Hotel, Jerusalem.

26.11 The opening of the annual two-day Conference of the Insurance Agency of the Economic Corporation of the Union of Local Authorities will take place at the Moriah Gardens Hotel in Zichron Ya'akov.

4.12 Ongoing controversies over regulations governing pensions has spurred a number of conferences and debates. The Focus Ha'aretz conference on "The Battle for the Pension" will include both lectures and debates. Speakers will examine pension-related issues such as who gains and who loses by the new arrangements, how workers and managers are affected as individuals, and how the economy is affected as a whole. Participants in the conference, which will be held at the Green House, 24 Wise Street, Tel Aviv, will include insurance experts, Treasury representatives, senior executives from a variety of major industries and representatives of state-owned companies.

BITS & BYTES

Applied Spectral reaches final for European Information Technology Prize: Applied Spectral of Migdal Ha'emek was one of 25 finalists to make it to the last round of the European Information Technology contest. The European prize is organized jointly by the Esprit program of the European Commission and The European Council of Applied Sciences and Engineering. The 25 finalists have been selected among 319 entries from 26 European countries and from Israel.

BOS buys Surf stake for \$546,000: Better On-line Solutions Ltd. recently announced a share purchase agreement to buy 26 percent

of Surf Communication Solutions Ltd. for the sum of \$546,000, with an option to extend its investment to 51%, exercisable within the first six months of the agreement or during the first quarter of 1999. Surf Communication Solutions Ltd. was established in 1996 to answer the growing demand for software modern solutions for data, voice and image transmissions.

Cresco raises \$4.2 million on AIM: Cresco International raised \$4.2m in an initial public offering conducted on the London Alternative Investment market. Cresco is involved in developing small growing businesses in Israel, several in the high-tech sector.

Cresco's initial holdings are expected to generate total turnover for the company of \$8m in 1997 and \$12.8m in 1998.

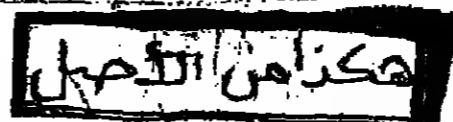
Elsint reorganizes: Elscint Ltd. a subsidiary of Elbit Medical Imaging, announced today that it has reorganized its 17 wholly owned sales and service subsidiaries into three geographic distribution zones and has made additional organizational changes to streamline its structure to increase efficiency and market penetration. Elscint has grouped its 17 wholly owned sales and service subsidiaries into three geographic distribution zones - the Americas, Europe and the "AAA" (Asia Pacific, Australia, Africa, and

the Middle East). Each zone will be managed by a corporate vice president who will be responsible for the day-to-day operations within his territory.

Magal security solution passes US tests: Magal Security Systems, Ltd. announced today that, while detailed results are classified by the US Government, the AISYS 370-A Bomb Detection System performed well enough in the recently completed testing at the Federal Aviation Administration's Technical Center in Atlantic City, New Jersey, that the FAA plans to place the AISYS in a US airport for operational testing in a real environment. This is the final step

before procurement. A test plan is currently being developed by the FAA and AISYS should be deployed at a major US airport as soon as the plan is finalized.

Virtual Jerusalem to anchor Jewish unity on the Web: Virtual Jerusalem of Israel will serve as one of the anchors during a week of cyber-activities for Jews around the world which will kick off February 22, 1998. Jewish Web/Net Week, a consortium of the largest Jewish sites, will feature 613 Jewish Web sites and events from a wide spectrum of ideological and religious perspectives. For more information and to register your site, visit the Web site, <http://www.jvw.org>.



TASE falls as mortgages sink on profits fear

Tel Aviv

Israeli stocks fell yesterday as mortgage banks, including Discount Mortgage Bank, Mishkan and Leumi Mortgage Bank, fell amid concern they will be less profitable in months ahead.

Discount Mortgage Bank fell 6.99 percent; Mishkan fell 7.52% and Leumi Mortgage Bank fell 8.24%.

The shares fell after news reports the government may rule that the mortgage banks won't be allowed to keep life insurance policy fees next year, said Gidi Halpern, a portfolio manager at Maipav Ltd., a Tel Aviv investment firm.

Mortgage banks currently require customers to take out life insurance policies to cover mortgages in case of death, and collect fees from those policies, he said.

The Maof index of 25 stocks fell 0.54% to 288.42. The Mishkan Index fell 0.74% to 279.35. The Tel Aviv Continuous Trading Index fell 1.27% to 95.18. The general bond index fell 0.02%.

Israel investors are also "waiting for Wall Street to open," said Halpern.

stocks in the UK and Belgium. German stocks led the gains as the Deutsche Mark weakened against the dollar, bolstering exporters.

Spanish and Portuguese stocks were the exception, falling on concern that economic problems in Latin America will dampen profit growth at companies such as Banco Bilbao Vizcaya SA and Telefonica de Espana.

"There are problems in Asia that cannot be ignored but I still think that in the long-term, the bull market is intact," said John Shelley, a fund manager at Aberdeen Asset Management, which has about 5 billion pounds (\$8.4 billion) invested in the UK market.

Hong Kong's benchmark Hang Seng index fell 1.11% yesterday and Japan's Nikkei 225 index slid 0.88%. On Friday, the Hang Seng fell as much as 6% before closing down almost 3 percent, and the Nikkei plummeted 4.2%.

A plunge by the Hang Seng two weeks ago caused stocks to tumble around the world.

Among European markets, the UK's FT-SE 100 index gained 42.5 points, or 0.89%, to 4806.8. Italy's MIB30 index rose 0.77% to 21977 and Germany's DAX index of 30 leading stocks rose 1.12% to 3756.91.

The slump in Asian stocks may be beneficial to European markets, said Bundesbank President Hans Tietmeyer. "Until now this development is more beneficial than potential for concern," Tietmeyer said at a meeting of the Group of 10 central bank governors. "Now there is more solid ground on financial markets and we hope that the worst is over."

Europe

European stocks gained on optimism Asia's economic turmoil won't impact on corporate earnings in Europe. Mergers and acquisitions helped to boost

STOCKS

Maof 288.42 ∇ 0.54%
Dow Jones 7552 ∇ 0.58%
FTSE 5244.2 Δ 0.46%
Nikkei 15697.20 ∇ 0.88%

Asia

Japanese stocks fell, led by banks like Sumitomo Trust & Banking Co., on investor concern about loans and bankruptcies in the financial industry could escalate.

Brokers and real estate companies were also big decliners as investors worried about ballooning bad loans after the collapse last Monday of Sanyo Securities Co.

"There's an overall sense of distrust in the stability of the market," said Masahiko Takai, who helps manage 576 billion yen (\$4.6 billion) worth of securities as executive managing director at Cosmo Investment Trust Management Co. "The market's quite sensitive, even paranoid about bad news."

The benchmark Nikkei 225 stock average fell 139.16 points, or 0.88%, to 15,697.20, the lowest

since July 6, 1995. The Topix index of all bank shares traded on the first section of the Tokyo Stock Exchange fell 3.23% to 42.85 - its lowest in more than a decade.

Sumitomo Trust & Banking fell 51 yen to 1,130. Mitsubishi Trust and Banking Corp. dropped 120 yen, or 9.6%, to 1,130. Nomura Securities Co. dropped 50 yen to 1,280. Mitsu Fudosan Co., a major real estate company, fell 150 yen, or 11%, to 1,200.

Banks fell as investors fretted that mounting bankruptcies at home and financial turmoil abroad could add to an estimated 28 trillion yen in bad debt the lenders already carry.

Investors speculated that loans Japanese banks have extended to other Asian countries, experiencing market turmoil, could go sour. "The banks already have their hands full [with bad loans] in Japan," said Isao Takahashi, director of Japanese equities at HSBC James Capel Japan Ltd. (Bloomberg)

Wall Street

Stocks fell modestly yesterday as an early rally faltered and the battered technology group struggled with worries about disk-drive demand and a flaw in Intel's Pentium chips.

The Dow Jones industrial average dropped about 28 points to 7,552 after surrendering an opening 75-point gain. It was the third straight losing session for the Dow, which lost 102 points on Friday after a sharp selloff in Japan rattled financial

markets around the world. Broader stock measures also turned lower despite some scattered demand for smaller companies that have less exposure to the economic turmoil in markets overseas.

Leading the technology slump was the disk-drive group, which suffered some brokerage downgrades in the aftermath of Friday's profit warning from Western Digital.

The selling intensified after Intel announced that it was working to fix a bug in its popular Pentium microprocessors.

With no economic reports scheduled for yesterday or today, the highlight of the session was an agreement by MCI to be bought by WorldCom for \$37 billion. WorldCom's bid overcame MCI's \$28 billion offer from GTE and a \$24 billion deal with British Telecom. MCI jumped more than 10 percent as the most active Nasdaq issue, followed by WorldCom, which fell.

According to preliminary calculations, the Dow Jones industrial average fell 28.73 to 7,552.59.

Advancing issues outnumbered decliners by a narrow margin on the New York Stock Exchange, with 1,455 up, 1,431 down and 540 unchanged.

NYSE volume totaled 463.42 million shares as of 4 p.m., vs. 564.10 million in the previous session. The Standard and Poor's 500-stock list fell 6.38 to 921.13, the NYSE composite index fell 2.42 to 484.87, and the Nasdaq composite index fell 11.68 to 1,590.72. (AP)

Table with columns: LAST CHANGE, TSE Energy, TWA, Vio, Labor, Tse, etc.

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Table with columns: LAST CHANGE, DJ Industrials, DJ Transport, DJ Utilities, etc.

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Table with columns: LAST CHANGE, Cocoa (Dec), Coffee (Dec), Wheat (Dec), etc.

Table with columns: LAST CHANGE, Accor, Air Liquids, Alkermid, etc.

Table with columns: LAST CHANGE, Gold (Dec), Silver (Dec), Platinum (Dec), etc.

Tel Aviv shares data supplied by Pacific Mediterranean Investments, Tel. 09-958-5873. All other data supplied by Commstock Trading Ltd., Tel. 02-624-4963. Due to technical failures data may be inaccurate. The Jerusalem Post will not be held responsible for the consequences of any transaction made on the basis of these data. Readers who wish to report missing or misquoted data should do so on postcards only, addressed to Jerusalem Post Business Desk, P.O.B. 81, Jerusalem 91000

DATA COMMUNICATIONS VIA... Foreign financial data courtesy of CommStock Trading Ltd. 34 Ben Yehuda St., Jerusalem

ISRAELI MONEY MARKETS. Patah (foreign currency deposit rates) (7.11.97). Currency (deposit rate) 3 MONTHS 6 MONTHS 12 MONTHS. U.S. dollar (\$250,000) 4.87% 4.87% 5.12%...

Precious metals. December gold was unchanged at \$311 an ounce on the Comex division of the New York Mercantile Exchange. Traders expect that gold producers will step up forward sales of the metal in anticipation that more central banks will sell reserves. On the other hand, jewelry demand is strong, as manufacturers take advantage of low prices to stock up their inventories.

Oil. Crude oil prices in London rose as Iraq and US forces moved nearer to conflict, an event which traders fear would threaten oil supplies from the Middle East.

COMMODITIES. Gold \$310 Δ 0.7%. Crude Oil \$19.63 ∇ 0.16%. CRB 243.87 Δ 0.38%. Coffee rose in London as persistent concern about Indonesian robusta crops partly offset expectations of a large harvest in Vietnam. Drought in Indonesia - the world's largest producer of lower-grade robusta coffee - may reduce the country's 1997-98 crop to 5 million 60-kilo bags, down

Others. The dollar rose against the mark amid signs of escalating friction between the US and Iraq and as US stocks gained.

Oil rises on Iraqi crisis. Iraq has threatened to fire on US planes flying over Iraq checking for banned weapons installations. That would be a "big mistake," said US President Bill Clinton this weekend, and that the action would not be without consequences.

ISRAELI MONEY MARKETS. Patah (foreign currency deposit rates) (7.11.97). Currency (deposit rate) 3 MONTHS 6 MONTHS 12 MONTHS. U.S. dollar (\$250,000) 4.87% 4.87% 5.12%...

Oil. Crude oil prices in London rose as Iraq and US forces moved nearer to conflict, an event which traders fear would threaten oil supplies from the Middle East.

US bonds fall as haven buying ebbs. US bonds fell for the first time in a week as investors fretted the robust labor market may quicken inflation, and as stock markets in Asia and elsewhere steadied, curbing safe-haven buying of Treasury securities.

BONDS. US 30-year T-bill yield 6.17 Δ 0.2. The possibility of a move is very remote," said Scott Graham, a bond trader at Prudential Securities Inc. "They won't try to rock the boat."

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Schumacher ban; Williams, McL... SPECIAL We want your used... ONLY

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Schumacher hopes to avoid ban; heavy fine likely

Williams, McLaren accused of collusion

LONDON (AP) — Michael Schumacher lost the world title when he collided with Jacques Villeneuve in the final Grand Prix of the season. Now he stands to lose even more.

In an extraordinary meeting today of FIA's World Motor Sport Council, Schumacher could be fined as much as \$1 million and could be suspended from some or all races next season.

Two weeks ago in Jerez, Spain, Schumacher's Ferrari dented Jacques Villeneuve's Williams as the two drivers duelled for the world title during the season-ending European Grand Prix.

Schumacher's car spun out after the crash, while Villeneuve went on to complete the race and win his first Formula One drivers' championship.

Schumacher, who had a one-point lead going into the race, has been widely accused of deliberately trying to knock Villeneuve out of the race to win his third title.

The German has denied intentionally ramming Villeneuve but admitted he made a driving mistake.

The FIA, the world governing body of motor sports, called today's meeting — near Slough, just west of London — to determine whether Schumacher should be sanctioned for his actions.

"I think I will be punished one way or the other," Schumacher said. "Either a fine or maybe I'll be docked points."

Schumacher, the sport's most marketable personality, has a three-year contract with Ferrari worth a reported \$50m.

He is widely regarded as the most talented driver in Formula One and his Italian-based Ferrari team is the sport's most glamorous. His absence from next season — or from just a few early season races — could threaten the sport's huge profits.

In a related hearing today, FIA has summoned two teams — Villeneuve's Williams Renault and McLaren Mercedes — following allegations that they colluded to fix the European Grand Prix.

Villeneuve, who needed only to finish in the top six to win his first world title after Schumacher crashed into him on the 48th lap, was reportedly told by team bosses to turn over the lead on the final lap to

McLaren's Mika Hakkinen and David Coulthard.

The exchange was a payback for the McLaren cars staying out of Villeneuve's way early in the race and working together with Williams to defeat Ferrari.

The collusion charge was first reported by the London-based Times, which published transcripts of Williams engineer Jock Clear telling Villeneuve over a radio to yield to Hakkinen.

"Be aware," he was quoted as saying. "Hakkinen is now in position two (second place). Probably wants to win. Very helpful. Hakkinen immediately behind you. Keep concentrating Jacques. Hakkinen has been very helpful. Don't let me down Jacques. We discussed this..."

With that, Villeneuve let Hakkinen pass and the Finn went on to win, with Coulthard second and Villeneuve third.

In an interview published Sunday, Williams team owner Frank Williams accused Ferrari of secretly tapping his team. He said Ferrari leaked the tapes to distract attention from the Schumacher inquiry.

"We understand that the contents of the tapes have been distributed widely by Ferrari," Williams said. "I am very disappointed to discover that Ferrari are listening to other teams during the races, but not really surprised."

McLaren managing director Ron Dennis denied he collaborated with Williams to fix the final race.

FIA said it was investigating whether the teams violated a rule in the International Sporting Code which cites "any fraudulent conduct or any act prejudicial to the interests of any competition or to the interests of motor sport generally."

Cooperation between teams and among team members is not entirely new.

In the early stages of the European Grand Prix, Villeneuve lost 2.5 seconds when he was blocked by Norberto Fontana driving a Sauber — but powered by a Ferrari engine.

Schumacher's teammate Eddie Irvine successfully blocked Villeneuve in the Japanese Grand Prix two weeks prior to Jerez.

In the time trials in Jerez, Irvine did it again and Villeneuve angrily confronted him in the pits.

Wimbledon beat Leicester 1-0

LONDON (Reuters) — Wimbledon beat Leicester 1-0 away yesterday in a Premier League game for which the term "mid-table mediocrity" might have been invented.

Leicester earned the nickname of the "new Wimbledon" last season because they showed the same terrific battling qualities that had served the unfashionable London club so well.

But there was little fire from either side during a dull first half. Things picked up slightly after the break as Leicester's Steve Guppy shot wide from close range in the 49th minute.

Two minutes later Wimbledon went ahead when Marcus Gayle headed in Carl Cort's right wing cross from virtual point blank range.

It was the midfielder's 50th career goal and proved enough to earn the three points for Wimbledon, who move up to ninth in the standings. Leicester are seventh.

Crystal Palace and Middlesbrough heated up their bid to bring 31-year-old Juventus striker Michele Padovano to English soccer yesterday.

The Italian had reportedly ruled out first division Middlesbrough last week but the north-eastern club said that the undecided player was due there later yesterday for transfer talks with manager Bryan Robson.

Premier League Palace, who already have former Juventus winger Atilio Lombardo on their books, said they expected to have talks with Padovano in London as well.

"It seems as though it's between us and Middlesbrough at the moment," a Palace spokesman said.

The Italian Corriere dello Sport newspaper reported on Sunday that Padovano, a useful substitute at the Turin club who has not had much of a run with the Italian champions this season, wanted more time to decide his future.

It quoted Padovano as saying he was not convinced by Middlesbrough. Former Juventus striker Fabrizio Ravanello spent a tumultuous season at the club before Middlesbrough were relegated and he departed to France this season.

QPR sack manager Houston, assistant Rioch. First division club Queens Park Rangers yesterday parted company with manager Stewart Houston and his assistant Bruce Rioch after just 14 months in the job.

The decision was announced after a board meeting of the London club who were relegated from the Premier League in 1996 and are currently 13th in the first division after winning just six of 16 league games. Houston signed a three-year contract in September 1996.

The two men were formerly in charge of Arsenal — but with Rioch as manager and Houston as assistant. Houston spent a brief spell as caretaker manager at Arsenal after Rioch left the club.

Watson gets England call-up. Newcastle defender Steve Watson joined the England squad yesterday as a replacement for injured Gary Pallister in the friendly match against Cameroon at Wembley on Saturday.

SPORTS

in brief

US qualify for France '98

VANCOUVER (AP) — Roy Wegerle sent the US to the World Cup for the third straight time Sunday, setting up the first goal and sealing it with two of his own in the final nine minutes in a 3-0 victory over Canada.

The victory, combined with Jamaica's 2-2 draw against El Salvador in San Salvador, clinched the Americans' place in France '98, and left their final match next Sunday against El Salvador as a celebratory festival.

Jamaica and Salvador are still battling it out for the third and final spot from Mexico. Jamaica leads by three points and needs only a draw against Mexico at home next Sunday to clinch the final place. Jamaica also would qualify if Salvador fails to beat the US in Foxboro, Massachusetts, next Sunday.

Graf pulls out of Frankfurt

BONN (Reuters) — Steffi Graf has pulled out of the Masters of Champions event, a new tournament intended to bring together the best players in women's tennis in Frankfurt next month.

Graf, who has been out of the game since June after undergoing knee surgery, had been scheduled to make her competitive comeback at the inaugural tournament.

Organizer Ralf Moehwald said he was bitterly disappointed by Graf's late withdrawal, which removes a major incentive for local tennis fans to buy tickets for the event.

Moehwald questioned how Graf could be fit to play exhibition matches against fellow German Anke Huber planned for December 11 but not ready to compete at the Frankfurt tournament, which begins on December 3. Moehwald suspects Graf may have feared meeting Martina Hingis, her successor as World No. 1, in her first tournament back.

Who's afraid of sharks? No worries!

PERTH (AP) — World swimming championships organizers have vowed not to be scared off by a few shark attacks.

The coordinator of the championships open water events, Kevin Holton, said yesterday that three confirmed shark attacks would not affect the five and 25 km open water races at the January event.

Last month a 5m-white pointer bit a surf-ski in two at Cottesloe. The men were uninjured, except for a few scratches. A few days later, a 6 white pointer was seen devouring a sea lion off Mullaloo Beach.

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Wolverines take Niedermayer's late goal lifts Panthers over No. 1 spot

ANN ARBOR (AP) — He can't coach. Too conservative. Runs too much. Passes too much. Too nice. Lloyd Carr has heard it all.

Today, he just smiles. Carr can afford to smile. His football team is No. 1 in this week's AP poll. Still, he won't brag.

He could, though, because Michigan's ascent is nothing if not a testament to Carr's tenacity.

"I really cannot have an interest in the polls at this time," Carr said between meetings Sunday. "I don't know how the other teams in the country are playing. All we can control is how we prepare for Wisconsin."

The Wolverines travel to Wisconsin this week. Then comes the annual grudge match against arch-rival Ohio State. That will be in Ann Arbor this year. There is no telling how Michigan will fare in those two games, of course.

But it can be fairly assumed the Wolverines will be well prepared. That is the one factor Carr can control. And he does.

Michigan (9-0, 6-0 Big Ten) climbed to the top of the poll after a convincing 34-8 victory Saturday at Penn State. It's the first time the Wolverines have been atop the poll since October 1990.

Certainly, seven years is a long time between strops at the top.

Especially for a program as prominent as Michigan's. Still, Carr is nothing if not a patient man.

Besides, he didn't ask for this job. It sort of fell in his lap.

Carr played high school football at Riverview, Michigan, and later quarterbacked Northern Michigan University to an undefeated season.

His first coaching job was as an assistant at Detroit Nazvity High. He was a high school coach for eight years.

Bo Schembechler hired Carr to coach Michigan's defensive secondary in 1980. He remained a Michigan assistant for 15 years. Carr called it the greatest assistant coaching job in the country.

Carr was thrust into the head coaching job by former athletic director Joe Roberson in 1995. Gary Moeller had been arrested for

a public drinking incident at a suburban Detroit restaurant. Roberson decided to make a change.

Many U-M people were outraged. Carr, loyal to Moeller, was among them. He had tears in his eyes at the news conference when Roberson announced Moeller was stepping down. A week later, the job was Carr's. He still wasn't thrilled.

Yet he quickly went to work. It wasn't how he wanted things, but he would do the best job he could. When the Wolverines lost four games in 1995 and four more in 1996, his critics said Carr wasn't the man for the job.

The critics said Carr wasn't enough like Schembechler.

They conveniently forgot that Schembechler was often considered a dinosaur, too. Especially after going 6-6 in 1984. But the Wolverines bounced back in '85 to go 10-1-1. They finished No. 2 in that season, after a 27-23 win over Nebraska in the Fiesta Bowl.

Carr now has the Wolverines on top. And he did it his way. He hired assistants with backgrounds out unlike his. Both wide receivers coach Erik Campbell and defensive coordinator Jim Herrmann played for Schembechler. Offensive line coach Terry Malone played high school ball at Detroit Catholic Central.

The Top 25

(First-place votes in parentheses, records through Nov. 8, total points and previous ranking)

Rank	Team	Record	Pts	Pv
1.	Michigan (44)	9-0	1,723	4
2.	Florida St. (23)	9-0	1,693	3
3.	Nebraska (3)	9-0	1,623	1
4.	Ohio St.	7-1	1,496	7
5.	Tennessee	7-1	1,477	8
6.	Penn St.	7-1	1,342	2
7.	Georgia	7-1	1,314	9
8.	North Carolina	8-1	1,248	5
9.	UCLA	7-2	1,200	10
10.	Kansas St.	8-1	1,125	11
11.	LSU	7-2	995	14
12.	Florida	7-2	966	13
13.	Washington	7-2	898	8
14.	Washington St.	8-1	873	18
15.	Arizona St.	7-2	865	15
16.	Auburn	7-2	815	17
17.	Mississippi St.	6-2	473	19
18.	Texas A&M	7-2	418	21
19.	Purdue	7-2	404	23
19a.	Virginia Tech	7-2	404	20
21.	Syracuse	7-3	372	22
22.	Iowa	6-3	289	12
23.	Wisconsin	8-2	282	—
24.	Oklahoma St.	7-2	254	25
25.	Missouri	6-4	115	—

MIAMI (AP) — It was a day of comebacks and suspensions as the Florida Panthers beat the Washington Capitals 3-2 Sunday night on Ron Niedermayer's goal with 29 seconds left.

Washington played without forward Chris Simoo, who was suspended by the league for using a racial slur (see box).

Meanwhile, Florida coach Doug MacLean was making his return to the bench after being suspended for two games by the NHL for going after an official following the Panthers 4-3 overtime loss to Buffalo Nov. 4.

Red Wings 6, Flames 3
Brendan Shanahan and Igor Larionov each had three points as Detroit won on home ice.

Shanahan had two goals and an assist while Larionov had one goal and two assists as the Red Wings shook a mild 1-2-1 slump.

Cale Hulse had two goals for the Flames.

Hurricanes...Senators
In Greensboro, North Carolina, the smallest crowd in the NHL this season saw the Carolina Hurricanes overpower Ron Tugnutt for a victory over Ottawa, snapping the Senators' three-game road winning streak.

Attendance was announced at 5,551 at the 20,800-seat Greensboro Coliseum. The previous low this season was 6,083.

also at Greensboro, and Sunday's attendance dropped the average to 8,375 through 10 games.

Last year the franchise averaged 13,657 at the Hartford Civic Center before leaving Connecticut for North Carolina.

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division		W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Philadelphia	10	5	3	23	58	45	40
New Jersey	10	5	0	20	43	28	28
Washington	9	7	2	20	50	43	43
NY Islanders	7	6	3	17	49	43	43
NY Rangers	4	6	7	15	42	45	45
Florida	5	8	3	13	37	50	50
Tampa Bay	2	12	2	8	28	56	56

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division		W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Detroit	12	3	3	27	64	40	40
St. Louis	11	5	2	24	53	40	40
Dallas	10	5	3	23	57	44	44
Phoenix	7	7	2	18	47	44	44
Chicago	7	10	0	14	33	44	44
Toronto	4	8	3	11	29	45	45

Pacific Division

W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA	
Colorado	8	3	6	22	55	43
Anaheim	8	5	4	20	44	42
Los Angeles	7	7	4	18	57	50
Edmonton	5	9	3	13	36	55
San Jose	5	11	3	11	37	51
Calgary	3	12	3	9	48	64
Vancouver	3	12	2	8	39	60

Sunday's results:
Florida 3, Washington 2
Detroit 8, Calgary 3
Carolina 4, Ottawa 1



BOARD GAMES — Carolina Hurricanes Nelson Emerson (l) is pinned to the boards by Ottawa Senators Chris Phillips. (AP)

Simon says: Player accused of making racial slur

MIAMI (AP) — Chris Simon, an American Indian with the Washington Capitals, was suspended indefinitely by the NHL on Sunday amid accusations he shouted a racial slur at a black player on the Edmonton Oilers.

Simon made the remark to Mike Grier at the end of the Capitals-Oilers game Saturday night in Landover, Maryland, some players and two on-ice officials said.

Simon, who honors his Ojibwa Tribe heritage with long hair and a tattoo, traveled with the Capitals to Florida for Sunday night's game. He had no comment on the issue, and the league did not disclose what Simon said. The NHL will set a date for a hearing to determine the length of the suspension.

The Capitals-Oilers game ended with players shouting at each other. The officials broke them up before any punches were thrown. A gross misconduct penalty was called on Simon at 20:00 of the third period.

"I definitely heard a racial slur from Mr. Simon," Oilers coach Ron Low said. "I thought with his race and proud background that he wouldn't do that."



REIFFEL SHOT — Australia's Paul Reffel (l) hits the ball towards New Zealand wicketkeeper Adam Parore. Reffel and Ricky Ponting hit 77 off 84 balls before Australia declared their second innings at 294 for six. (Reuters)

Australia set New Zealand 319 to win Test

BRISBANE (AP) — Greg Blewett and Ricky Ponting put Australia in the box seat in the first cricket Test against New Zealand with half centuries at the Gabba yesterday.

Ponting's forceful, unbeaten 73 and his quick-fire 77-run stand with Paul Reffel enabled captain Mark Taylor to declare at 294 for six, leaving New Zealand 319 to win in a minimum of 93 overs.

Blewett top-scored with 91 but it was Ponting's hard hitting that gave Taylor leeway for an early declaration.

Blair Pocock made three and Bryan Young was yet to score as New Zealand reached four for no wicket at stumps on day four.

Australia scored 373 in its first innings and dismissed New Zealand for 349.

Local history is very much against a New Zealand victory. No team has scored over 236 runs in the fourth innings to win a Test here. It was achieved by Australia in the 1951/52 series against the West Indies to win by three wickets. Until Reffel joined Ponting at the fall of

Blewett's wicket, the tenacious New Zealanders kept pegging away on the field, forcing Australia to bat ponderously as it built on its first innings lead.

Medium pacesman Chris Cairns and left-arm spinner Daniel Vettori checked Australia's second innings progress reducing the home side to 163 for five.

But Blewett, 91, held the innings together with stubborn defiance. He raised 59 for the fifth wicket with Steve Waugh and added 54 with Ponting.

Blewett fell to a brilliant first slip catch by skipper Stephen Fleming, his fourth catch of the innings for a match tally of six.

Australia picked up the momentum after tea which was taken at 173 for five and a lead of 197 runs.

New Zealand dismissed the dangerous Waugh twins in the post lunch session. Mark for 17 after a ball deflected off his pad and glove to silly mid-off and Steve (23) who was caught behind from a loose cut shot.

They followed the first session dismissals of Matthew Elliott (11) and Ian Healy (25) after Australia resumed the day on 25 for one.

Mark Waugh looked upset at his decision, glaring and shaking his head at umpire V.K. Ramaswamy as he left the ground.

Blewett, forgot his failure in the first innings with a 262-minute subdued knock that was crowned with a dozen boundaries off 203 balls.

Ponting, cut loose soon after a message from the dressing rooms as he scored his runs off 84 balls with seven fours and two sixes.

The seventh wicket stand was realized in 56 minutes, Reffel adding an unbeaten 28 to his first innings 77.

Teenager Vettori proved a thorn in Australia's side with a sustained spell claiming two wickets in 36 overs.

All rounder Chris Cairns added three second innings wickets to his first innings four to finish with a match bag of seven for 144.

His efforts with the ball came in addition to his 64 in New Zealand's first innings.

Lakers remain unbeaten behind Shaq's 27 points

INGLEWOOD (AP) — Shaquille O'Neal, playing in just his second game of the season, had 27 points and 19 rebounds Sunday night as the unbeaten Los Angeles Lakers overpowered winless Golden State 132-97.

O'Neal finished 10-of-17 from the field and 7-of-12 from the foul line while playing 29 minutes. He came out of the game for good with 1:59 left in the third quarter and the Lakers leading 88-61.

The Warriors (0-6) are off to their worst start since they moved to the Bay area from Philadelphia in 1962.

Kobe Bryant scored a career-high 25 points for the Lakers (4-0), who are off to their best start since beginning the 1987-88 season with a franchise-record eight wins.

Seattle 112, Philadelphia 105
Vin Baker had 25 points and 12 rebounds to lead visiting Seattle to its fourth straight win.

Hersey Hawkins scored 20 points for Seattle, while Gary Payton had 16 points, 14 assists and six steals.

Allen Iverson led Philadelphia with 23 points and 10 assists.

Kings 86, Knicks 78
Rookie Michael Stewart sparked a rally with eight points and eight rebounds in the fourth period as host Sacramento woo its first game of the season.

Mitch Richmond scored 23 points, including 11-of-11 from the free throw line, and Corliss Williamson added 18 points for the Kings, who had lost their first four games.

Patrick Ewing's 21 points led the Knicks, who were outscored 23-11 in the fourth period.

Grizzlies 104, Pistons 96
Blue Edwards scored eight points in overtime, including a key 3-pointer with 3:06 left, as Vancouver handed visiting Detroit its fourth straight loss.

Shareef Abdur-Rahim had 22 points and 11 rebounds for the Grizzlies, while Bryant Reeves finished with 22 points and 10 rebounds.

Lindsey Hunter led the Pistons with 23 points, while Malik Sealy added 20.

Grant Hill had 14 points, 10 rebounds and 14 assists for Detroit, but was held to two points in the final 21 minutes.

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division		W	L	Pct	GB
New Jersey	4	1	.800	—	
Miami	4	2	.667	1/2	
New York	3	3	.500	1 1/2	
Orlando	3	3	.500	1 1/2	
Washington	2	4	.333	2 1/2	
Boston	1	5	.167	3 1/2	
Philadelphia	0	5	.000	4	

Central Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
Atlanta	8	0	1.000	—
Milwaukee	4	1	.800	1/2
Charlotte	4	2	.667	2
Chicago	4	2	.667	2
Cleveland	2	3	.400	3 1/2
Detroit	2	4	.333	4
Indiana	2	4	.333	4
Toronto	1	4	.200	4 1/2

Pacific Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
L.A. Lakers	4	0	1.000	—
Seattle	5	1	.833	1/2
Portland	4	1	.800	1/2
Phoenix	3	1	.750	1
L.A. Clippers	1	4	.200	3 1/2
Sacramento	1	4	.200	3 1/2
Golden State	0	8	.000	5

Sunday's results:
Seattle 112, Philadelphia 105
Sacramento 86, New York 78
Vancouver 104, Detroit 96 (OT)
L.A. Lakers 132, Golden State 97

Sydney Games C'ttee rejects security criticism

SYDNEY (AP) — A report claiming that security planning for the 2000 Olympics is in turmoil was rejected by the organizers and police yesterday.

Sydney Organizing Committee for the Olympic Games chief executive Sandy Hollway and a spokesman for the New South Wales police Olympic Security said security preparation was highly praised last month by the International Olympic Committee Coordination Commission.

The Canberra Times newspaper reported yesterday that hickering between NSW police and federal agencies had raised fears about the safety of athletes and spectators at the games.

Security concerns came to a head with the invasion by Greenpeace of Prime Minister John Howard's Sydney residence last month, the paper said, quoting anonymous sources.

"You can't have an event of this magnitude without there being some issues and we're working with the federal government and we're working through them well," Hollway said in a statement.

"Only recently, SOCOG, the IOC and all state and federal agencies involved conducted several meetings together which were extremely constructive and most beneficial and the IOC is more than happy with developments on the security front."

An Olympic Security Command Center spokesman said the Coordination Commission, headed by senior IOC member Jacques Rogge, had reported that security preparations for the Sydney Games were being well handled by an expert team which was doing an expert job.

"What we're looking at is probably best explained as the world's most complex event and it is evolving and in terms of our relationships with other agencies, the relationship has been very good," the spokesman said.

He said the Command Center was not giving any credence to the newspaper report.

UEFA: No reason to discipline Ferguson

GENEVA (Reuter) — Manchester United's Alex Ferguson and Feyenoord's Geert Meyer will not face UEFA disciplinary action because there was no mention of a clash between the coaches in the referee's report on last Wednesday's Champions' League game.

"There is nothing in the match report so there is nothing we can do," said UEFA spokesman Frits Ahlstrom on Monday. "Mr. Ferguson can file a complaint if he wants to pursue the matter but I have been told he won't."

Ferguson was incensed by a bad tackle on Irish international defender Denis Irwin by Feyenoord's Paul Bosvelt late in United's 3-1 victory in Rotterdam.

He approached the Feyenoord bench to confront the player and exchanged heated words with Meyer. Reports claimed Meyer had ended the row by spitting his gum at the United coach.

Ferguson said referee Sander Puhl had been too lenient on the Dutch side. Irwin is out for six weeks following the tackle.

مركز من التصل

CRITICS CHOICE

THEATER

HELEN KAYE

Yosef Bar-Yosef's Father of the Groom is a parable. If director Micki Gurevitch had understood that, he could have shaped the characters as the allegories they are, and empty form could have taken on substance.

CLASSICAL MUSIC

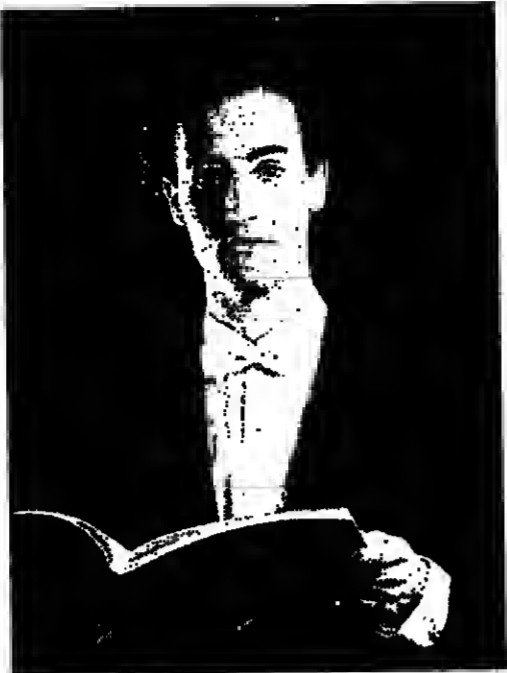
MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

The first concert lecture in Tomer Lev's The Verdier of History series is "The Exquisite Negligibility of Biedermeier: Franz Schubert and the Music of the European Bourgeois."

FILM

ADINA HOFFMAN

*** MY BEST FRIEND'S WEDDING - Australian director P.J. Hogan's movie stars Julia Roberts as a neurotic New York restaurant critic who realizes she's in love with her closest pal (Dermot Mulroney) the day he announces his engagement to a pliable young millionairess (Cameron Diaz).



Pianist Tomer Lev's concert lecture series begins tonight.

than his share of thin jokes, crude physical gags and overly sentimental moments, the film also manages to win us in surprising ways. Roald Bass's script has a bitter, heartbroken edge that bumps in interesting ways against its otherwise cheerful tone, and Roberts lends herself gamely not just to adorable dithering but also to exposing Julianne's nasty, desperate side.

TV

CHANNEL 1

6:30 News flash 6:31 News in Arabic 6:45 Good Morning Israel

EDUCATIONAL TV

9:00 Life on the Screen - computers and the Internet 9:30 Art Workshop 9:00 Science and Nature

CHANNEL 2

15:30 Pink Panther 15:30 Dennis and Gansher 16:25 Super Ben

ARABIC PROGRAMS

18:30 News flash 18:31 Geric, Pepper and Cleo - oggplant around the Mediterranean

HEBREW PROGRAMS

19:30 News flash 19:31 Geric, Pepper and Cleo - oggplant around the Mediterranean

CHANNEL 10

19:30 News flash 19:31 Geric, Pepper and Cleo - oggplant around the Mediterranean

CHANNEL 11

19:30 News flash 19:31 Geric, Pepper and Cleo - oggplant around the Mediterranean

CHANNEL 12

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CHANNEL 13

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CHANNEL 32

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CHANNEL 33

19:30 News flash 19:31 Geric, Pepper and Cleo - oggplant around the Mediterranean

JORDANTV

14:00 Holy Koran 14:10 Sandokan 14:30 CPO

MIDDLE EAST TV

7:00 TV Shop 14:30 Body Electric 15:00 Basic Training

MOVIE CHANNEL (4)

11:30 Eminent Domain (1991) - a former senior member of the Polish Postbox - pre-Solidarity era - attempts to discover the reasons for his dismissal.

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PRIME TIME TV

Table with 8 columns (1-8) and 8 rows (19:30-23:00) listing TV programs and channels.

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Weather forecast for various cities including Amsterdam, Berlin, Boston, Buenos Aires, Cairo, Chicago, Copenhagen, Frankfurt, Geneva, Helsinki, Hong Kong, London, Los Angeles, Madrid, Montreal, Moscow, New York, Paris, Prague, Rome, Sao Paulo, Seoul, Stockholm, Sydney, Taipei, Toronto, Warsaw, Wellington, Zurich.

Winning Cards in yesterday's Miral Hapays daily chance drawings. Shows numbers like 2, 8, 10, 7, 6, 3, 10.

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CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

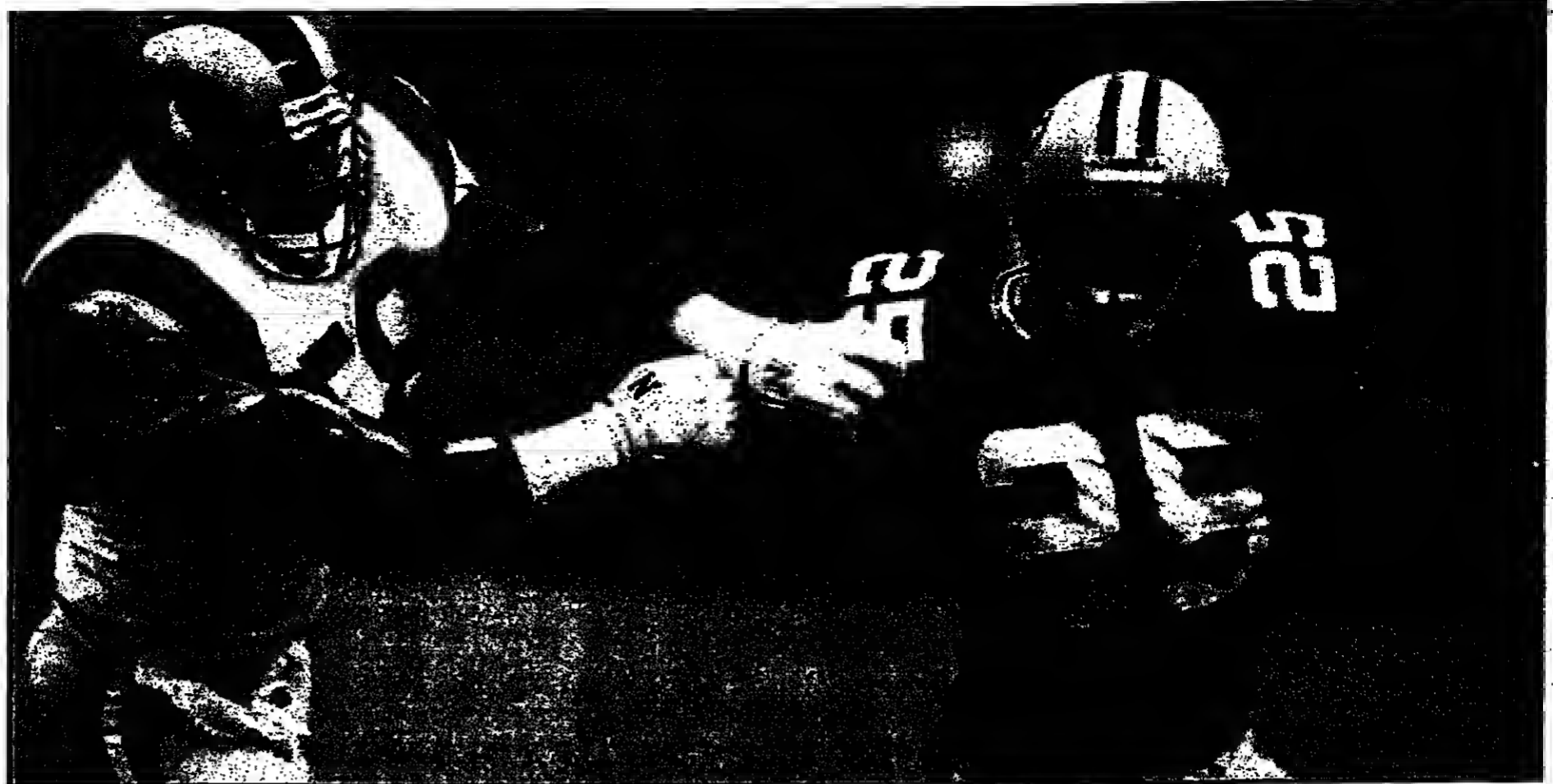
Cryptic crossword puzzle with clues and grid. Clues include '21 Captive may be shot a long time afterwards (7)', '22 Monotony of a Massenet composition (8)', '24 Italian man of affairs (8)', '25 Place ast aside for development (4,4)', '26 See as new comforts (6)'. Down clues include '1 They make their names as proverbial historians (3,7)', '2 Two birds seen in early part of the day (8)', '3 Fleadors are involved here and there (8)', '4 Repair after some reflection (4)'. Across clues include '5 Stay to check mother in (6)', '6 Encourage a sound location for a pub (6)', '7 Yet it may be sweet (4)', '10 Investigation reaches wrong outcome after right start (8)', '12 Mother's pets are dogs (8)', '14 Used by riders but not as riding breeches (10)', '16 Riding school discipline is a habit that comes with time (8)', '17 They fly to Riva as a change (6)', '19 Pet journal distributed around the first of May (6)', '20 Private line to the Queen? (6)', '22 Secured the same numbers of points? (4)', '23 Chinese capital lies in total waste (4)'. Solutions are provided for some clues.

Quick crossword puzzle with clues and grid. Across clues include '1 Arbitrator (5)', '4 Cerebral (6)', '9 Excitable (7)', '10 Mistake (5)', '11 Finished (4)', '12 Debar (7)', '13 Hasten (3)', '14 Footwear (4)', '16 Search (4)', '18 Prosecute (3)', '20 Ground (7)', '21 Drop (4)', '24 Sea (5)', '25 Willingly (7)', '26 Whole (6)', '27 Gloomy (6)'. Down clues include '1 Subordinate (6)', '2 Lament (5)', '3 Cupid (4)', '5 Work-out (8)', '6 Persecution (7)', '7 Pantry (6)', '8 Pale (5)', '13 Old family servant (8)', '15 Croup (7)', '17 Rub gently (6)', '18 Trap (5)', '19 Actor (6)', '22 Similar (5)', '23 Poet (4)'. Solutions are provided for some clues.

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SOLUTIONS section providing answers for the cryptic and quick crossword puzzles. Includes solutions for across and down clues for both puzzles.

Marino continues mastery over Jets



SHORT-GAINER - Green Bay RB Dorsey Levens is stopped by St. Louis Rams linebacker Roman Phifer after a five-yard gain. The Packers won 17-7. (Reuters)

Inside
Michigan No. 1 in college football poll

p. 18

Formula One under fire

p. 17

Sports Editors
Joe Hoffman & Ori Lewis

NFL

AMERICAN CONFERENCE					
Team	W	L	T	Pct.	PF
East	6	4	0	.600	208
Miami	6	4	0	.600	254
New England	6	4	0	.600	237
NY Jets	5	5	0	.500	170
Buffalo	5	5	0	.500	154
Indianapolis	0	10	0	.000	154
Central	7	3	0	.700	262
Jacksonville	7	3	0	.700	241
Pittsburgh	7	3	0	.700	217
Tennessee	5	5	0	.500	217
Baltimore	4	6	0	.400	210
Cincinnati	3	7	0	.300	191
West	9	1	0	.900	302
Denver	9	1	0	.900	238
Kansas City	7	3	0	.700	204
Seattle	6	4	0	.600	233
San Diego	4	6	0	.400	202
Oakland	3	7	0	.300	237

NATIONAL CONFERENCE					
Team	W	L	T	Pct.	PF
East	6	4	0	.600	192
NY Giants	6	4	0	.600	203
Washington	6	4	0	.600	212
Dallas	5	5	0	.500	158
Philadelphia	4	6	0	.400	197
Arizona	2	8	0	.200	170
Central	8	2	0	.800	233
Green Bay	8	2	0	.800	238
Minnesota	7	3	0	.700	208
Tampa Bay	7	3	0	.700	172
Detroit	4	6	0	.400	187
Chicago	1	9	0	.100	187
West	8	1	0	.889	227
San Francisco	5	5	0	.500	166
Carolina	3	7	0	.300	131
New Orleans	2	8	0	.200	171
Atlanta	2	8	0	.200	171
St. Louis	2	8	0	.200	171

NEW YORK (AP) — Some things just don't change. Washington continued its dominance over Detroit, Dan Marino maintained his mastery of the Jets and the Broncos kept winning.

The Redskins shut down three Lions quarterbacks Sunday and the NFC's top rusher and receiver as Washington beat Detroit for the 18th straight time, 30-7. Detroit has never won on the road against Washington, losing in all 19 visits since 1938.

Marino, questionable before the game with a sore left ankle, again feasted on the Jets secondary, throwing for 186 yards and one TD as Miami beat New York 24-17.

Denver's Darrien Gordon returned two punts for touchdowns in a 34-0 victory against Carolina, improving the Broncos (9-1) league-best record.

The Dolphins have beaten the Jets seven consecutive times in games Marino starts and moved into a three-way tie atop the AFC East with New York and New England.

Marino, whose 67 touchdowns against the Jets are more than any quarterback has thrown against any team, reversed the momentum of the game at the end of the first half with a patented, precise two-minute drill.

He completed six of eight passes on the 1:31 drive, including a 23-yard touchdown to Brent Periman with five seconds remaining for a 14-10 lead at the half.

Glenn Foley played well in his first start of the season for New York, throwing for 322 yards, one touchdown and one interception.

Foley tried to conjure up a late comeback, but Miami stopped New York on fourth-and-5 at the Dolphins 30 with 3:48 left on a controversial call.

Wayne Chrebet was ruled to have dropped a pass when he hit the ground; the reception would have gained a first down. It appeared on replays that Chrebet caught the pass.

San Francisco played at Philadelphia last night.

Redskins 30, Lions 7

James Jenkins caught a touchdown pass and Terry Allen ran for one score as Washington (6-4) handed Detroit (4-6) its third straight loss and moved into a tie

for first in the NFC East. Though he had a record-setting day, Barry Sanders was an ineffective weapon against the second-worst rushing defense in the league. He had one highlight: a classic, reverse-field, 51-yard touchdown sprint that helped run his streak of 100-yard games to eight.

It was also Sanders' eighth consecutive 100-yard road game, breaking Marcus Allen's record. Plus, Sanders became the first player in NFL history to rush for 1,000 yards for nine consecutive seasons.

Sanders finished with 105 yards on 15 carries and also lost a fumble.

Broncos 34, Panthers 0

Gordon returned punts for 82 and 75 yards in the first quarter as Denver (9-1) handed Carolina (5-5) its first shutout in its three-year

existence. Tyrone Braxton returned an interception 27 yards for another touchdown, and John Elway accounted for the lone touchdown by the Denver offense on a 20-yard pass to Rod Smith.

Patriots 31, Bills 10

Derrick Cullors returned a kick-off 86 yards for one touchdown, and linebacker Chris Slade deflected a pass to himself for another as New England broke a three-game losing streak.

The Patriots (6-4) appeared to be crumbling after three straight losses, but their victory over the Bills (5-5) pulled them back into a tie for the division lead.

Saints 13, Raiders 10

Doug Brien's 44-yard field goal with 2:57 left gave New Orleans (3-7), shut out in its previous two games, the victory over Oakland (3-7).

Packers 17, Rams 7

Antonio Freeman caught seven passes for 160 yards and a touchdown as Green Bay held off the last team to beat it at Lambeau Field.

The Rams (2-8), whose upset of the Packers in the 1995 opener is the only blemish in Green Bay's last 35 home games, were done in by 15 penalties that cost them 110 yards.

Brett Favre had his first 300-yard passing game of the season.

Vikings 29, Bears 22

Leroy Hoard's 1-yard run with 54 seconds left rallied Minnesota (8-2) to its sixth straight victory. It was the second time in four games the Bears (1-9) have come up just short against a division leader.

Jaguars 24, Chiefs 10

Jacksonville won its 11th straight home game, picking off Ricb Gannon twice, recovering his

three fumbles and getting a team-record six sacks.

Marcus Allen had 37 yards rushing, making him the seventh player in NFL history to surpass 12,000 yards for his career.

Cowboys 24, Cardinals 6

Host Dallas used nine sacks, two rare rushing touchdowns and a big play by Herschel Walker to get back to 5-5.

Walker caught an 11-yard TD pass from Troy Aikman to give the Cowboys a 10-3 lead in the second quarter. Sberman Williams and Emmitt Smith scored on 1-yard and 5-yard runs, respectively, in the second half.

Oilers 10, Giants 6

Eddie George ran 32 times for 122 yards and a touchdown, and Tennessee (5-5) sacked Danny Kanell three times, ending New York's five-game winning streak.

Oilers safety Marcus Robertson

ended the Giants (6-4) last chance when he picked off Kanell's pass at midfield with 1:46 left.

Buccaneers 31, Falcons 10

Trent Dilfer threw two touchdowns passes and Mike Alstott had a 47-yard scoring run. The Bucs (7-3) remained a game behind Green Bay and Minnesota in the NFC Central and a leading contender in the wild-card race after beating Atlanta (2-8).

Steelers 37, Ravens 0

Pittsburgh took advantage of seven Baltimore (4-6) turnovers and Jerome Bettis ran for 114 yards as the Steelers stayed tied for first in the AFC Central.

Kordell Stewart threw for one TD — a 52-yarder to Yancey Thigpen — and ran for another, but Pittsburgh's offense had it so easy that the Steelers opened a 20-0 halftime lead despite totaling only 87 yards in the first half.

Sampras drawn with 3 rookies in ATP finals

HANOVER (AP) — Pete Sampras, the No. 1 in the world and the defending champion, yesterday drew three tough opponents for the preliminary round of the ATP Tour World Championship.

Although he was drawn with his three-round-robin group, Sampras has a potentially risky draw.

His Red Group also comprises Patrick Rafter, Greg Rusedski and Carlos Moya. Michael Chang, No. 2 in the world, is seeded in the White Group, which includes Jonas Bjorkman, Yevgeny Kafelnikov and Sergi Bruguera.

Two players from each round-robin group advance to the semifinals.

In the first preliminary round today, Sampras plays Moya in a repeat of the Australian Open final, Rafter battles Rusedski in a repeat of the US Open final and Chang faces Bruguera.

Sampras, 26, will finish the year as No. 1 in the world regardless of the outcome of the season-ending tournament that brings together the eight top-ranked players.

By finishing as No. 1 on the ATP Tour rankings for the fifth consecutive year, Sampras has tied the record of fellow American Jimmy Connors.

There was a slim mathematical chance for Sampras to be knocked out of the top ranking by Rafter. But by losing in the semifinals in Stockholm last week, Rafter now cannot overtake Sampras even if the American fails to win a match in Hanover.

Sampras, who has won seven titles this year, is the only player to have captured two Grand Slams — Wimbledon and the Australian Open.

The arrival of four rookies reflects the wild season and the changing of the guard in men's tennis.

Throughout the season, there were few players who dominated and many lower-ranked newcomers rose through the ranks by beating the established stars and reaching the late stages of events and winning titles.

Rafter, 24, was one of them. He began the year ranked No. 62, but went on to win the US Open, his first major title. Now, he will be the first Australian to play in the ATP final, once known as the Masters, since Pat Cash in 1987.

Bjorkman began the year ranked No. 69. After winning his third title of the year Sunday in Stockholm in his native Sweden, Bjorkman has shot to No. 4 in the world.

He was in the final in Paris the week before, losing in four sets to Sampras.

Sampras later said that was one of his toughest matches of the year.

Bjorkman, 25, probably has one of the best returns in tennis.

Moya, the Australian Open finalist from Spain, will also make his first appearance at the \$3.3 million event, along with Canadian-born Rusedski, who will be the first British representative at the year-ending championship.

Moya, the youngest in the field at 21, was ranked No. 28 at the start of the year, Rusedski No. 48.

Sampras, making his ninth straight appearance, is seeking his fourth title. Chang, runnerup in 1995, returns for the sixth time, while Bruguera and Kafelnikov are both back for the third time.

The race for the eight berths was so close that the last two spots were decided only Sunday: Kafelnikov qualified when he won the Kremlin Cup in Moscow, and Bruguera advanced when Marcelo Rios lost the final in Santiago, Chile.

The only Grand Slam winner to have failed to qualify was the French Open champion Gustavo Kuerten.

Toronto vs. Roughriders in CFL's Grey Cup

TORONTO (AP) — Mike Clemons grabbed a Doug Flutie pass and raced 58 yards for a touchdown with 40 seconds remaining Sunday to give the Toronto Argonauts a wild 37-30 victory over the Montreal Alouettes in the CFL Eastern Division final.

With the win, Toronto will defend its Grey Cup title in Edmonton, Alberta, Sunday against the Saskatchewan Roughriders, 31-30 winners over the Edmonton Eskimos for the Western Division title.

Montreal dominated the third quarter, outscoring Toronto 21-3 to take a 30-23 lead. The biggest play of the period was Chris Wright's electrifying touchdown on a 70-yard punt return.

Toronto's Robert Drummond tied the score 30-30 early in the fourth quarter with a 2-yard touchdown run, his third TD of the game.

Toronto began its game-winning drive at its 16-yard line with less than two minutes remaining after Montreal kicker Terry Baker missed a 42-yard field goal attempt.

Roughriders 31, Eskimos 30

The Roughriders will make their first trip to the Grey Cup since 1989. Quarterback Reggie Slack, the former Auburn star, and slotback Curtis Mayfield each ran for two touchdowns for Saskatchewan. One of Mayfield's came on a 95-yard punt return.

Edmonton failed to score from 1-yard out in the second quarter and the Eskimo kicker Sean Fleming missed two of four field goal attempts.

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 The New York Times
 Volume 117, Number 18
 Tuesday, November 11, 1997